

# BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XX NO. 33 AUGUST 16, 1990

395 NINTH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103-3831

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## Helms Files FEC Complaint Against ACT UP

by Allen White

Sen. Jesse Helms' re-election campaign has named ACT UP/San Francisco in a complaint filed with the Federal Election Commission charging that activities relating to the Miller beer boycott violate the Federal Campaign Act of 1971.

"While economic boycotts may be considered lawful as a means of political protest,"

the complaint charges gay newspaper articles "leave no doubt that the true purpose and intent of defendants' activities extend beyond acts of protest to the defeat of Sen. Jesse Helms for re-election. Such activities," the complaint claims, "are subject to regulation."

In addition to ACT UP/San Francisco, the complaint also names ACT UP/DC, the Dallas Gay Tav-

### Chicago Bars Dump Miller Boycott. Story, page 2.

ern Guild, the Dallas Gay Alliance and the Tarrant County (Texas) Gay Alliance.

Meanwhile, this week SF Board of Supervisors President Harry Britt endorsed the boycott, and ACT UP implemented a national Miller boycott information telephone system.

However, resistance to the boycott in the gay community appears as strong as support for it.

In San Francisco there was no significant increase in the number of bars and businesses joining the boycott. In fact, the boycott appears to be losing ground. The Castro Station has dropped it, and the Detour is considering ending its participation.

Most of the boycotting

bars, which are concentrated in the Castro, are still selling Miller that was delivered before the boycott began.

The boycotting bars say they will not reorder after their supply of Miller is gone. But Golden Brands, the local Miller distributor, said that several of the bars claiming to be supporting the boycott are reordering Miller.

The Helms complaint was (Continued on page 19)



Paul Martz receives the Tom Wadell Award at closing ceremonies of Gay Games III in Vancouver. With him is Brent Nicholson-Earle, center, Robert Neyts, right, and Wadell's widow, Sara Lewinstein, left. (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

## Emotional End to Gay Games

by Karl Bruce Knapper

The closing ceremonies of Gay Games '90: Gay Games III and Cultural Festival were an emotion-charged event, the sign that a week of gay and lesbian celebration was coming to an end.

The closing ceremonies which seemed much less

tightly organized/choreographed than the opening ceremonies, but they were also much shorter, commenced as the opening ceremonies did, with a performance by the Lesbian and Gay Bands of America.

The LGBA, which were directed by Jim Cochrane, marched onto the B.C. Place

Stadium field accompanied by a band of baton twirlers, drum majors and flag corps.

One baton twirler of indeterminate gender, in a purple, sequined leotard, black go-go boots, and a big black bouffant hairstyle was a particular crowd favorite — able to toss and twirl three batons at once (Continued on page 14)

## Western Union Ends Bias Against Gays

by Dennis Conkin

Western Union, the target of a boycott by gay activists because of its attempt to scuttle San Francisco's Human Rights Ordinance, has issued a revised non-discrimination policy for employees that includes sexual orientation.

The change in policy "is a significant step forward and a good faith effort to ensure that lesbian and gay Americans who work at the company are protected from harassment and discrimination," said Tim McFeely, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the nation's largest lesbian and gay political organization.

The conglomerate attempted to have San Francisco's Human Rights Ordinance scuttled as unconstitutional, rather than address the merits of an anti-discrimination lawsuit filed by Armand Ertag, a 13-year employee of ITT Worldcom.

Ertag was dismissed short-

ly after Western Union acquired the company.

The attempt to have the Human Rights Ordinance declared unconstitutional was condemned by gay activist groups around the country and led to a national boycott of the conglomerate.

The HRCF cancelled Western Union mailgram services for its "Speak-Out" campaign, which sends thousands of telegrams for members to elected officials about gay rights issues at an estimated loss of \$300,000 a year for the company.

"It's good news. It's great to see that Western Union has had a change of heart and is updating its employment policies to respect the diversity of their employees," said Art Silverman, spokesman for Mayor Art Agnos.

"That's a responsible corporate attitude," said TJ Anthony, an aide to Supervisor Richard Hongisto. "Western (Continued on page 27)

## Straight vs. Gay Sexually Motivated Attacks Up in SOMA

by Keith Clark

On a Sunday night in July 1987, William Safian, a young man visiting the City from Scarsdale, N.Y., was reportedly called a "faggot" and a "fruit" by Pablo Imeri as Safian was walking down Folsom Street to go dancing at the Oasis.

According to witnesses, after the verbal assault Imeri pulled a knife and stabbed Safian in the face and then in the abdomen. Two hours later Safian was dead. It was later revealed that Safian was

heterosexual — one of the increasing numbers of non-gays visiting the new thriving straight bars and clubs South of Market, once the Miracle Mile of gay leather.

Last month, three years after the death of Safian, a gay man who asked not to be identified, said he was attacked one night after leaving the S.F. Eagle, a popular gay leather bar at 12th and Harrison streets.

The young South of Market leatherman, still with the scars of his assault, described his assailants as "young sub-

urban-type kids" in their late teens or early 20s.

In reporting the assault, however, he said he did not tell police about its anti-gay nature because, "It wouldn't make any difference anyway. What are the cops going to do, put out an all-points-bulletin because some young suburban-type kids bashed a queer in San Francisco? Give me a break."

Between 1987 and 1990 a great deal has changed South of Market. A shift has taken place with the closing of (Continued on page 9)



The Watering Hole has found itself surrounded by straight nightspots. (Photo: Marcus)

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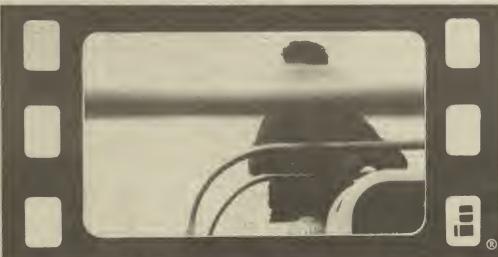
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# Chicago Gay Bars Reject Boycott of Miller Beer

by Rex Wockner

Following a meeting with members of ACT UP, officials of 11 Chicago gay bars have refused to join the national boycott of Miller beer, but most signed on to the boycott of Marlboro cigarettes.

Miller and Marlboro are owned by the Philip Morris Corp., whose political action committee has donated nearly \$200,000 to key anti-gay U.S. Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) and a Jesse Helms "citizenship center" in North Carolina.

The bar representatives said that Miller was a long-time friend to the Chicago gay community and insisted that a boycott would primarily hurt the local distributor, rather than Miller or Philip Morris.

Miller generates 3 percent of Morris' income.

The meeting was sometimes heated, with Jim Ludwig, co-owner of Roscoe's bar, admonishing activists, "You can't just act up, you've got to act smart . . . You guys ought to consider doing something positive."

"It sends the wrong message to the corporate community," said Arthur Johnston, co-owner of Sidetrack bar.

"Our action won't hurt Miller, so much as Chicago Beverage [the local distributor], which is our friend."

David Boyer, owner of Carol's Speakeasy, called the boycott "dumb," saying "it's ridiculous to not support a friend. I'm not going to pull [Miller] Lite out of my bar," he said. "If customers don't want to buy it, they don't have to."

**"...it's ridiculous to not support a friend. I'm not going to pull (Miller) Lite out of my bar."**

Johnston said Sidetrack had begun carrying Bud Light beer so that customers who prefer light beer but do not want to drink Miller Lite will have a choice.

David Friesen, owner of the AA Meat Market Bar & Grill, said his bar had stepped up its promotion of Bud Light.

Only Ann Sather restaurants agreed not to reorder

both Miller and Marlboro.

The bar owners agreed that the boycott of Marlboro "makes sense" because it directly hurts Philip Morris. Eight bars signed up to blacklist the cigarettes, saying they would stop stocking Marlboro and place anti-Morris propaganda in the empty cigarette machine slots.

At the meeting's end, ACT UP's Tim Miller summarized, "Well, obviously ACT UP disagrees [about Miller beer]. A boycott has been called and we're going to honor that."

Miller said the boycott was not designed so much to impact Jesse Helms as to flex gay economic muscle.

"Lesbians and gays are tired of getting kicked every time we turn around."

Windy City Times Publisher Jeffrey McCourt editorialized against the boycott and urged ACT UP and others to work against Helms by sending money to Harvey Gantt, Helms' opponent in the November election.

The Miller boycott has also been spurned in Milwaukee, where the ACT UP chapter and the gay press oppose it. San Francisco and Philadelphia gay newspapers have editorialized against the boycott as well. ▼



Anchorperson Sylvia Chase accepts an award from the Center.

(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

## Center Fundraiser Nets \$10,000; KRON-TV's Chase Honored

by Dennis Conkin

More than 250 people attended an old-fashioned church hall fish fry for the East Bay's Center for AIDS Services at Gertie's Chesapeake Bay Cafe in Berkeley on Aug. 12.

The fundraiser netted more than \$10,000 for the agency.

At the event, KRON-TV anchorwoman Sylvia Chase received an award of appreciation for her assistance in narrating a video about the Center's AIDS services, "AIDS: The Journey To The Center."

"It's wonderful to be thanked for the work that I've done, I do volunteer work at Coming Home Hospice, but I'm not the one who should be thanked. It's all of you who volunteer at the Center, who work for the Center and

the work that you do, you are the ones who should be thanked," Chase said.

Founded in 1986 by Brother Jeremy Hollinger, a community activist and a Missionary Brother of Mother Teresa of Calcutta, the Center provides food bank, transportation, counseling, social activity and drop-in services to 450 Alameda County clients with AIDS/ARC or HIV infection yearly.

The largest provider of AIDS support services in Alameda County, the Center also provides counseling and support for caregivers.

According to Don Pharaoh, the Center's development director, the recent change of the Center's name from the Spiritual Resource Center to the Center for AIDS Services reflects the expansion of the Center's ser-

vices during the past year.

"The Center has a much broader mission than when it first started, including practical and emotional services," Pharaoh said. "Our name didn't reflect that, so we became the Center For AIDS Services."

According to Pharaoh, the Center receives only 20 percent of its \$557,000 annual budget from county funds.

The rest of the money comes from foundation grants, individual donations and support from local churches, bequests and through special events.

In addition to the fish fry, actually a sit-down panfried trout dinner in the Cafe, guests were also treated to music from several local church choirs, singer Melanie Monsur and an appearance by Jimbo the Clown. ▼

# East Bay Preschools Targeting AIDS Kids

by Keith Clark

Alameda County officials are bristling over reports of discrimination against children with AIDS by preschools after a lesbian couple was rejected by nearly 40 schools while trying to place their 3-year-old adopted son who has AIDS.

The couple, Susan Pavlik and Millie Jessen, have yet to find a school for their son Eric.

Susan Pavlik, who spends all her time at home to take care of the boy, said two preschools she contacted turned Eric down flat and only three told her they would accept the boy, who is asymptomatic and "looks like any normal 3-year-old boy."

Pavlik said all the other schools she spoke with told her they would have to consult with their boards of directors or other superiors before any decision could be made.

Federal, state and county

laws forbid discrimination against people with AIDS, and county officials have moved quickly to deal with the problem.

Susan Black, Alameda County's HIV-AIDS Service Division's policy and law analyst, said, "The law is clear. Eric has the same rights as any other child."

Black said she was sending out letters to all preschool centers in the area warning them of the laws barring discrimination and the penalties involved and giving them 10 days to respond.

If they do not reply, Black said she would contact the schools again in person to make sure they understood their legal responsibilities.

If there is continued resistance to the non-discrimination laws, she said violators could be sued for civil damages and legal action could force them to comply with the laws.

Pavlik and Jessen made national news last year when



Susan Pavlik (left) and Millie Jessen have yet to find a school for their son. (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

they became the first lesbian couple in the country to adopt a child with AIDS, after acting as foster parents for Eric since he was an infant.

"He needs the social skills that come from playing with other children as well as basic learning and developmental skills," Pavlik said.

Pavlik said she also needed time from the constant home care she's been giving Eric.

"I want to sit down," she said. "Have you ever tried to follow a 3-year-old around all day?"

Pavlik said Eric was "like

(Continued on page 16)

# Police 'Visit' Father Frank's

by Jeff Boswell

Police officers visited the Church of the Secret Gospel on Aug. 12, forcing an early end to late-night services.

Father Frank Finch, who heads the church, said three patrol officers who had come to investigate a disturbance of the peace elsewhere on the street appeared at his door at 735 Tehama at about 4 a.m.

Finch, who said he has had a good working relationship with police and fire officials, said he let the officers enter, opting not to insist that they first produce a search warrant.

"They said they wanted to see permits, which we don't have, because we aren't a business, we are a church," Finch said. "One officer held

(Continued on page 22)

## CUAV Needs Counseling Volunteers

Volunteers are desperately needed for CUAV's 24-hour crisis hotline. For the third year in a row, Community United Against Violence has recorded the highest number of physical assaults against lesbians and gays of any other city in the country.

Volunteers are needed to offer crisis counseling and referrals to gay-sensitive professionals and support groups. Those working on the hotline will be assigned beepers and work out of the comfort of their own homes.

Calls to the hotline involve issues related to both anti-gay/lesbian violence and gay domestic violence, both of which have been on the increase lately.

As CUAV would like to have an informed and effective staff of volunteers, those interested will need to undergo a basic training program in crisis counseling. Training will be held on Sept. 5, 6, 10 and 12 from 6 to 9 p.m.

With an increasingly diverse San Francisco gay community, CUAV strongly encourages the involvement of people of color and of a bilingual background.

Call CUAV by Aug. 24 to set up an appointment to speak with one of the counselors at (415) 864-3112.

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## Compound Q Subculture Guerrilla Clinics Catering to Needs of PWAs

by Dave Gilden

The 75 people attending a community forum on Compound Q Aug. 8 witnessed the emergence of a new AIDS treatment subculture.

Compound Q is an extract from the roots of a Chinese wild cucumber that has performed well as an HIV fighter in so-far unpublished trials sponsored by Project Inform.

Press accounts of Q's effectiveness has given rise to medically supervised "guerrilla clinics" where HIVers can inject themselves with the unapproved remedy.

One such clinic, "Uncle Gene's Lab" on Castro Street, was the sponsor of the August 8 event. (Uncle Gene's Lab is named after Genelabs, the manufacturer of the American version of Com-

ound Q.) Speakers described why the guerrilla clinics came into being and how they operate.

Although Compound Q is readily smuggled from China, where it is used as an abortifacient, private doctors generally are reluctant to give it to their patients. In the words of Project Inform Director of Research Terry Beswick, who spoke at the forum, "We still don't know the correct dose to give, the best frequency and method of administration, nor what concomitant medication should be taken to avoid side effects. It is fair to be skeptical and cautious in this business."

Desperate PWAs eagerly reaching out for the hope Compound Q provides find that they face a world of un-

certainties. "Marlon" has been taking Compound Q since January in one of Project Inform's trials. Starting with a T-cell count of 95 (over 800 is normal), he did fine until the fourth two-hour infusion of the drug.

On this occasion, he nearly passed out. Prompt treatment brought him back to consciousness, but he didn't complete the Q treatment that day. Still he decided to come back for more.

"I had done everything, AZT, herbs, acupuncture, and it wasn't working," he says. Now, eight months after starting treatment, his vital T-cell count is back up to 500 per cubic millimeter of blood.

Another Q-taker who appeared at the forum is Roland. Roland gets his infu-

(Continued on page 12)



Members of Queer Nation staged a Queer Be-In at Aquatic Park.

(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

## Shakin' Up the Tourists

by Rachel Pepper

Queer love and visibility were the mottos on Aug. 11 as the new San Francisco activist group Queer Nation held a Queer Be-In across from Ghirardelli Square at Aquatic Park.

About 250 people, comprised of both Queer Nation members and friends, jammed the small park near Fisherman's

Wharf for an afternoon of schmoozing, low key activism and merry-go-round riding.

Taking the idea from the love-ins of the 60s, the Queer Be-In was scheduled for a busy Saturday at the waterfront to give tourists a taste of San Francisco they may not have previously seen.

Though a few Queer Nation members passed out informa-

tion about the group to tourists or held signs aloft about being queer, most of those participating seemed to be just enjoying socializing in the sunshine.

Queer Nation is also planning a "back to school" outing to a suburban shopping mall and starting self-defense classes for men and women. The group meets Wednesdays at the Women's building at 7:30 p.m.

## Tenderloin Self Help Center Protests Looming Closure

by Dennis Conkin

A Tenderloin agency facing closure on Sept. 1 took to the steps of City Hall on Aug. 13 in a spirited protest against city mental health budget cuts that have scuttled the \$500,000 program.

In a unique demonstration, Tenderloin Self Help Center staffers not only picketed City Hall, they closed operations at the 191 Golden Gate site and set up shop for the morning on the steps of City Hall.

Established in 1986 as a peer based mental health program, the agency provides assistance to Tenderloin resi-

dents and homeless people in the neighborhood.

Besides programs targeting homeless women, Cambodian and Salvadoran refugees, the center provides a variety of services to low-income lesbians and gays living in the Tenderloin.

It also provides outreach services that includes AIDS education to homeless people unwilling to come into the center.

The Tenderloin Self Help Center is about people helping themselves. We see a lot of people with HIV and AIDS, many of them homeless who have no place to go," said Bill Hirsch, a gay activist

attorney who is the agency's program coordinator.

According to Hirsch, activists "intend to hold elected officials accountable" for allowing the center to close.

Malcolm Garcia, MSW, the agency's director, says that the closure of the program coincides with efforts by the city Health Department to change the program's mandate.

According to Garcia, mental health officials ordered the agency to exclude clients who did not meet the city's definition of a mental-health client.

Among clients that would be excluded under the definition

(Continued on page 23)

## Bay Area Christian TV Channels Plan Merger

by Keith Clark

Two of the Bay Area's leading fundamentalist Christian television broadcasters announced last week plans to form a network of Christian TV stations, according to Kurt Foreman, station manager of KLXV-TV, Channel 65, in San Jose.

Federal officials say the plan may be filled with both FCC and federal antitrust pitfalls.

KFCBTV, Channel 42, in Concord and its repeater station in Fresno, Channel 34, are not merging with KLXV-TV, Foreman said, but instead are combining business, marketing, programming and studio operations.

The new network will be called United Christian Broadcasting, with headquarters in San Jose and a second office in Concord.

"It's a networking agreement," Foreman said. "I want to emphasize that this is not a corporate merger. Each station will be independently controlled. This will help reduce overhead by centralizing our business and marketing operations."

Foreman said the two stations had not filed any paperwork with the Federal Communications Commission because the UCB did not constitute a merger of the two businesses.

But FCC officials in Washington, who said they had seen nothing on the plan, wondered whether such a joint operating agreement, like agreements that combine certain corporation functions of daily newspapers like the *San Francisco Chronicle* and *San Francisco Examiner*, was in line with the Communications Act of 1934, which governs the nation's broadcast media.

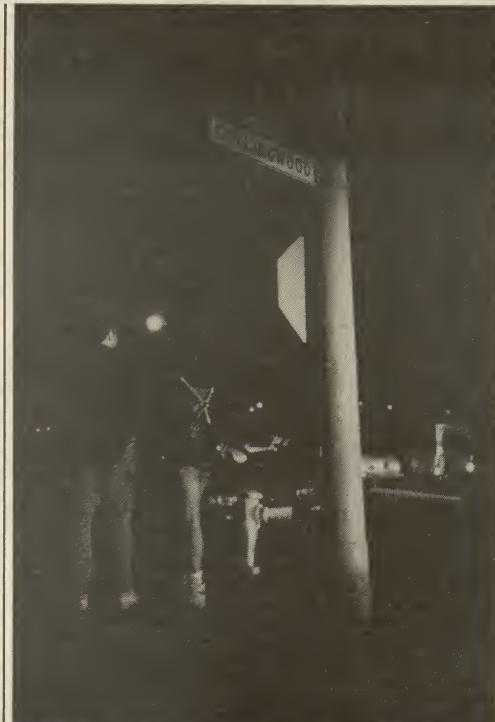
FCC spokeswoman Sandy Adams said, "Any time two independent broadcasters alter the independent relationship with one another, the FCC is involved."

All TV broadcasters operate under an original agreement with the FCC that, among other things, is designed to prohibit unfair restraints of trade and ensure the "absolute control of the station, its equipment and operation, including ... programs to be broadcast" by the station itself, Adams said.

Both areas would, she said, be of concern to the FCC in any agreement arrived at by the two television stations, whether they called UCB a merger or a joint operating agreement or an independent contractor.

The new UCB network will be headed by Ron Haus, KFCB's president. Foreman is to serve as the chief of operations. KLXV-TV will, as part of the new agreement, begin using KFCB's Concord recording studios. The UCB board is to be composed of officers of First Christian Broadcasting Inc., the license holder for KFCB, and from KLXV's license holder, Friendly Bible Church of San Jose.

Foreman said UCB would be seeking other independent Christian broadcasters to join the new network. ▼



Castro's Collingwood Park

(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

## Collingwood Park Noise Targeted

by Allen White

Late-night cruisers in the Castro's Collingwood Park are making too much noise, according to police, who are planning a new noise abatement program in the area in response to residents' complaints.

Collingwood Park, a city park located at 19th Street and Collingwood behind Cala Market, has been one of San Francisco's busiest gay cruising areas for more than a decade.

After 2 a.m., as the bars close, cars fill the area, creating a mini traffic jam. The streets are packed with people, and many make their way into the large baseball field of the park.

With the people come noise, and the sleepless nights of area residents have come to the attention of the police.

Mission Station Police Captain Mike Hebel has announced that teams of gay and lesbian police officers will soon make their presence

known during late-night hours in the area. Most will be in uniform.

The officers will be there to control the noise, which comes primarily from car radios and people who are simply talking too loud. Hebel stressed their purpose will not be to move people from the area or monitor people's conduct.

Complaints of noise in the area are nothing new for Collingwood cruisers. In the past few years, Coming Home Hospice, also in the neighborhood, has appealed several times to the community to reduce late-night noise because AIDS patients were being kept awake.

Community United Against Violence will be acting in conjunction with the police. CUAV's function will be to advise those in the area of the hazards of violence.

Hebel said that there have been reports of violence against gays in the area and he welcomed the participation of CUAV. ▼

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# RSVP

# Bay Area Reporter

## Open Forum

VOL. XX NO. 33 AUGUST 16, 1990

NEXT ISSUE OUT: AUGUST 23, 1990

NEXT DEADLINE: AUGUST 17, 1990

### B.A.R.

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### EDITORIAL

## A Right to Be Proud

Celebration '90: Gay Games III and Cultural Festival has just concluded, and all of us have a right to feel proud that we have once again proven to ourselves and the world that the lesbian and gay community is capable of putting together a class act, one in which the quest for personal achievement — and there was much of that at the Games this year — did not overshadow the Games' original purpose, to create an event where people of any age, race, ability or sex could participate.

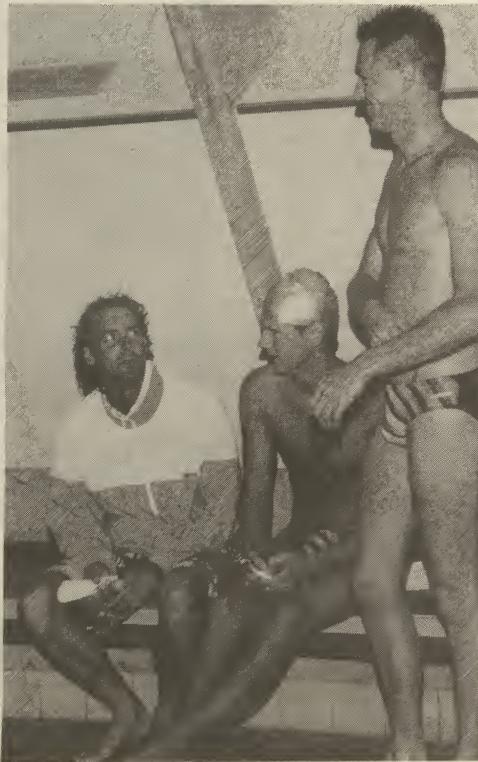
Attendance marks and world sports records were broken at the Games, but perhaps even more important, this year's festivities proved that founder Tom Waddell's dream truly did have wings. The Games left its nest in San Francisco and soared in Vancouver, a triumph in which we all can share. The Vancouver Games achieved several of the goals its organizers had outlined, including near parity between men and women, inclusion of older lesbians and gays and an increase in the number of people of color participating.

The Games produced many heroes — people like Mike Mealliffe, a 50-year-old whose times in the swimming competition shattered two world records in his age division, and Marc Hein, a person with AIDS who ran in the Marathon. American lesbians and gays at the Games found a new hero in openly gay Member of Parliament Svend Robinson, an eloquent speaker whose vision of a world accepting of diversity inspired the crowd at the Games' opening ceremonies.

Athletes and attendees returning from the Games — even those who have quibbles over the particular details of the competitions and cultural activities — are reporting that the spirit of brotherhood and sisterhood among lesbians and gays was as strong as it was during Gay Games I and II here.

"People are bringing that energy back to their homes all over the world," said one woman participant early this week. "It sounds like a cliché, but I can tell you everyone in Vancouver was glad — and I mean really glad — to be gay last week. And that's a great feeling to have."

Congratulations to all of the Bay Area athletes and artists who made the trip to Vancouver. May the Games continue to be a source of gay pride and affirmation.



### GUEST OPINION

## Support Domestic Partnerships, Not Mediocrity

This fall the lesbian and gay community of San Francisco will be asked to support a ballot initiative for domestic partnerships. But before we expend the time, energy and money that will be necessary to wage an effective campaign, this legislation should be closely examined.

The ordinance is deeply flawed in several respects. People who register under the ordinance must agree to be jointly responsible for each other's basic living expenses. Under this provision one partner can be sued for the debts of the other partner.

It's fine to make this type of commitment. However, most people agree that there should be benefits that match the level of responsibility. This legislation simply does not provide any benefits.

To the contrary, according to a preliminary study by the AIDS Legal Referral Panel, *persons with HIV infection could actually lose funding under some government programs*. No one should have to choose between their lover and getting health benefits.

Because of sloppy drafting, we go from the harmful to the bizarre. The ordinance purports to "create a way to recognize informed committed relationships."

However, the next clause states that this includes "those lesbians and gay men who are otherwise denied the right to identify the partners with whom they share their lives." Since lesbians and gay men are not denied the right to "identify" their partners, we may not even be able to register under this law.

Surely this is not an intended result. But it is typical of the problems that can crop up when legislation is rushed to the ballot without any significant community involvement.

Registration under the new ordinance would not be limited to residents or employees of San Francisco. No one yet knows the ramifications registration will have for out-of-state residents.

This year's ordinance is considerably weaker than last year's version. In fact, it is arguably the weakest in the country. It pro-

vides no benefits; it doesn't provide us with a way to avoid the problems that plagued Sharon Kowalski and Karen Thompson; it doesn't protect us from retaliation; it doesn't have non-discrimination provisions; and it does not require the distribution of an information brochure to applicants.

Without such a brochure, many people will simply not know what obligations they are undertaking and what additional legal documents they will need to protect their relationship (for example, a power of attorney for health care decisions and a will are of critical importance for lesbians and gay men). Last year's domestic partners ordinance required a brochure to be given to all applicants.

Many people think of San Francisco as the gay capital of the country. Lesbians and gay men throughout the nation look to us for leadership.

When we pass a domestic partners ordinance, it should be the very best it can be. It should be a law that we can look to with pride — one that we can share with activists in the heartland who will want to emulate what we have accomplished.

Right now though, many of us are faced with a choice of blindly supporting this legislation because it is "politically correct" or being labeled divisive if we do not support it. There are scores of talented people in our community who would pitch in to help draft a really first-rate ordinance, if only they were allowed.

There is nothing wrong with wanting a truly superior domestic partners bill — one that provides real benefits, is written with precise language, and will have a chance of withstanding a legal challenge. Support domestic partners, not mediocrity.

—Leonard Graff

*Leonard Graff is a Human Rights commissioner and the former legal director of National Gay Rights Advocates. He is a pioneer in legal advocacy for the rights of lesbian and gay couples.*

## LETTERS

### Support for Native Americans

The following letter was sent to the Mohawks of Kahnawake and Kanesatake outside Montreal who have been fighting against the expansion of a golf course on land long claimed by the Mohawks:

★ We are sending a donation of \$230 to support your fight for land rights and the tactic of blocking a bridge to call attention to that struggle. We are part of a group called Stop AIDS Now or Else that blocked the San Francisco Golden Gate Bridge in January 1989 to call attention to the need for immediate action in the AIDS epidemic.

Enclosed is a leaflet and button we distributed to people on the bridge and a postcard of our action. We wanted to send you support as lesbian and gay bridge blockaders and as longtime supporters of native rights and sovereignty.

Some of us participated in a protest at the Canadian Consulate here last week and want you to know we have a lot of support here in the Bay Area.

(Donations in support can be sent to Quebec Native Women's Association, 1450 City Councillors St., No. 440, Montreal, Quebec H3A 2E5).

Stop AIDS Now Or Else  
San Francisco

### Exploiting Our Opportunities

★ I just had the opportunity to read Keith Clark's article regarding Mr. Dannemeyer in the July 19 issue of B.A.R. Clark has performed an outstanding service by this research into Dannemeyer's contributors' list. I would suggest that anyone interested in derailing his career might want to communicate to the officials responsible — or their superiors — that supporting this person is tantamount to supporting bigotry and death.

I found it amazing, for instance, that the American Medical Association — whose official positions on AIDS and choice are at complete odds with his — would be a contributor! If our community were truly as organized as Dannemeyer and Sheldon fantasize, these organizations and corporations would be receiving a lot of heat.

The gay community would be best served if we stopped empowering the bigot by reacting like angry little kids every time he spews venom. Laughter and ridicule are better weapons than ranting and raging. We should stop playing "M" to his "S!" Proposition 102 gave us ample evidence that average citizens eschew his approach and mindset; his own district voted 60 percent no.

We in Log Cabin thank Bill Dannemeyer on every occasion possible for inadvertently promoting the rights of gay citizens by making us look so much better than he. We are even thinking of making him an honorary homosexual, since he cares so much about it. Believe me, ridiculing him works. The hottest item at our last two state conventions was our "Gerbil Liberation Front" button.

Hardcore investigative journalism of the type you have been doing on Dannemeyer and Sheldon will provide the indispensable tools for the political fight against them. The challenge to the political leadership of the community is to use those tools effectively and wisely. I'm afraid this will happen only when people stop seeing the GOP as a monolithic enemy and figure out, along with us in Log Cabin, how to exploit the opportunities that are truly there for the taking.

Martin Keller  
Chairman, United Log Cabin Clubs of California

### Obvious Reasons

The following letter was sent to Rob Morse, columnist at the San Francisco Examiner.

★ In your July 31 column you say, "Alcoholism is endemic to gay culture, for all the obvious reasons." Never mind that the first half of this amazing statement is a stupid, unsupportable generalization; what are all these "obvious" reasons to which you refer?

D.W. Wade  
San Francisco

### Silly Boy

★ I'm confused about the Miller beer boycott. I just didn't realize that beer accounted for such a large part of Philip Morris' profits. Silly me, I thought tobacco was their big profit product.

And, can you imagine, I thought all tobacco companies contributed to Jesse Helms' campaign.

Sillier me, I thought that maybe if everybody quit smoking it would do more good than switching beers. Of course, telling us girls to quit smoking might not work, considering how nobody would get to act like Bette Davis and all.

And besides, beer and bars are ever so politically incorrect, so I certainly can see the logic of switching beers instead of quitting smoking. After all, what would us new left neo-puritans do without a hot fag to hold on to?

Horace MacGregor  
San Francisco

### Bully Boys

★ Is ACT-UP just a pent-up youth cult? How many of them are out to Mommy and Dad? Are these tough boys the same ones who bullied me in high school?

Why don't they go to the East Bay and raise some hell? Is it because 18th and Castro might provide a trick or a better photo opportunity?

Couldn't we sell Miller beer and give the money to Harvey Gant? Instead of yelling with their friends, could they not spend energy being nice to an older gay man? The Miller boy on page one (B.A.R.) sure looks mad, doesn't he?

Jon Stephens  
San Francisco

### Short on Loyalty

★ I am not surprised by the boycott of Miller beer, considering the loyalty "track record" of far too many in our community who are behind it. And if you don't believe me, just ask Jack Molinari and Carol Ruth Silver — long-time friends and supporters of our community, who when they needed us, we were just not there.

As for the Miller boycott, Jean Harris asserts, and I quote, "The fact that Miller has contributed a few thousand dollars here and there does not mean they can buy us off." For the record, Ms. Harris, the Miller Brewing Company of Milwaukee had an anti-discrimination policy before the state of Wisconsin. Hell, your boss can't even get a domestic partners bill passed, and he's the president of the Board of Supervisors. In San Francisco, no less.

Considering the above, as well as other support we have received from Miller and their local distributor, Golden Brands, I will not join your boycott, Jean. I don't forget my friends. I'll be at the Castro Street Fair with my own supply.

Alan D. Bigford  
San Francisco

### Missing Miller

★ Sometimes groups like ACT-UP scare me more than the fundamentalists on the right. I'll tell you why.

People who presume to be right scare the hell out of me. Morally right, politically right, socially right. I don't care. The most dangerous thing anybody can say is, "I'm right, you are wrong, and I'm going to make you believe my way."

It's called self-righteousness.

Who died and made ACT-UP God? Since when do they speak for the whole gay community. How dare they presume to have the right to call a community-wide boycott without first involving the community! Last I knew I was still a part of that community. Although slowly being alienated.

A little bit of power goes straight to the head.

Singling out and targeting one group unfairly is a tactic often used by the right-wing fundamentalists to gain political leverage or increase their power. Likewise, sodomy laws across the country often unequally and unfairly apply to homosexuals. So why have we targeted only Miller? Why not all of Philip Morris? And has anybody looked into the affairs of Absolut Vodka, Remy Martin or Anheuser Busch?

This is called hypocrisy.

I may be wrong, but I don't think this boycott will ever have the full backing of the community. And to tell you the truth, I don't think Miller is going to miss a few of us as much as we all are going to miss Miller.

I'm sitting this one out (but my check went to Gant).

Walt Chambers  
San Francisco

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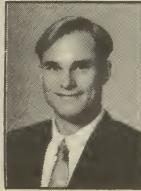
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## LETTERS

### Missing the Point

★ To those gay men of color who "don't wish to associate with white gays, period..." (letter by John Teamer to B.A.R., Aug. 2),

To those gay Asians in GAPA, a "group that excludes non-Asians from membership..." (letter by Eric Nunez to B.A.R., Aug. 2).

And most of all, to those gay whites who flock to gay bars populated only by other gay whites and feel that their lives are complete.

You are missing the point of living in San Francisco, where people from every corner of the earth have come to live and love freely;

You are missing the point of being gay, bi or lesbian. To be a member of a group grossly discriminated against carries a responsibility to fight prejudice as hard as you can in your own life and in the way you treat others.

And most importantly, you may be missing the chance to meet that one special person who might bring magic to your life in this cruel world, share your dreams, and return the love that you give tenfold.

Mike Sher  
San Francisco

support of well over 100 women, many who might not have previously considered donating blood. While our fund was primarily begun by lesbians responding to the community effort to combat HIV disease, it has been augmented by many of Irwin Memorial's own pool of donors who seek to give to our project.

We have found that involvement with the blood drive has had a profound effect on those who wish to contribute and make a difference. Because recent Blood Bank regulations have narrowed the eligible pool of donors, we continue to find that the bulk of our donor pool continues to be sustained by eligible women.

For those who missed our July 28th event and who would like to donate blood to the Harvey Milk group account, appointments may be made directly with Irwin Memorial Blood Bank at 567-6400. Anyone interested in information about our Blood Fund or receiving blood credits to reduce transfusion costs may call Lenore Chinn at 863-6761.

Lenore Chinn  
Director, Women's Day Blood Drive

### Fight Operation Concern Cuts

★ On behalf of the clients, staff and volunteers of Operation Concern, I want to express our gratitude for the support of the media and the community during our recent funding crisis.

Let me also take this opportunity to update you on the status of the funding issue with regard to Operation Concern. As a result of our collective protest over Dr. Reiko True's proposal to "discontinue outpatient services at Operation Concern" — a loss of \$188,000 which would have gutted the clinical and medical infrastructure of all our services and jeopardized all other programs, the Health Commission directed an investigation into the stated rationale for this cut and an exploration of alternatives.

Following that process, Dr. True reduced our funding cut recommendation to \$50,000. While we thank Dr. Chow, president of the Health Commission, for his integrity and thoroughness, we do not willingly accept this loss.

Since the budget is still in process, we have several possible strategies to seek the restoration of the funding. It is our position that, given the disproportionately low funding of lesbian and gay services (fewer than 8 percent of available mental health and substance abuse treatment dollars flow into a community that represents 15-20 percent of the city's population), it is unconscionable that even one dollar be deleted from our already scanty budget. There are other, more equitable options available to the city.

The budget process now moves to City Hall — to the Board of Supervisors and to the mayor. Please continue to support full mental health services to our community by letting our city of officials know that you do not support a cut in any level of services at Operation Concern.

Judith E. Stevenson,  
Executive Director Operation Concern

### Coordinate Not Replicate

★ We're glad the B.A.R. highlighted the Human Rights Commission's new Hate Violence Reduction Program in its July 26 issue, and focused on Community United Against Violence as a model for this new program.

CUAV has been very instrumental in the groundwork that made this new program possible, and work with CUAV will be critical to its development and success. We want to make sure it is clear to your readers that the HRC's Hate Violence Reduction Program is meant to establish a comprehensive, coordinated system for addressing all types of hate violence in all of San Francisco's many and diverse communities. Its chief role will be to coordinate existing efforts, not replicate any programs that now exist.

Thank you for calling attention to this extremely serious, too often life-threatening issue. We encourage anyone with information about hate violence or questions about our program to call or write us at: Hate Violence Reduction Program, Human Rights Commission, 1095 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94103, 558-4901 (TDD available) or Community United Against Violence, 564 Castro Street, San Francisco, CA 94114, 864-3112.

Peter M. Jamero  
Executive Director,  
Human Rights Commission

Barbara Cameron  
Executive Director,  
Community United Against Violence

# SOMA

(Continued from page 1)

many of the area's once-popular gay baths, bars and clubs and the opening of dozens of trendy — and sometimes trend-setting — non-gay restaurants and nightclubs South of Market.

Many former gay bars are now straight — Paradise Lounge (formerly Febe's), the Oasis and the Holy Cow.

## Gay-Bashing Increasing

A far more important change that has taken place with the influx of largely suburban non-gay young people to the area is a startling rise in anti-gay violence.

According to figures compiled by Community United Against Violence, anti-gay harassment and attacks in the area represented about six percent of the City's total in 1987 as well as in 1988. Last year that figure grew to eight percent. So far this year, South of Market accounts for an alarming 10 percent of the City's anti-gay verbal and physical assaults.

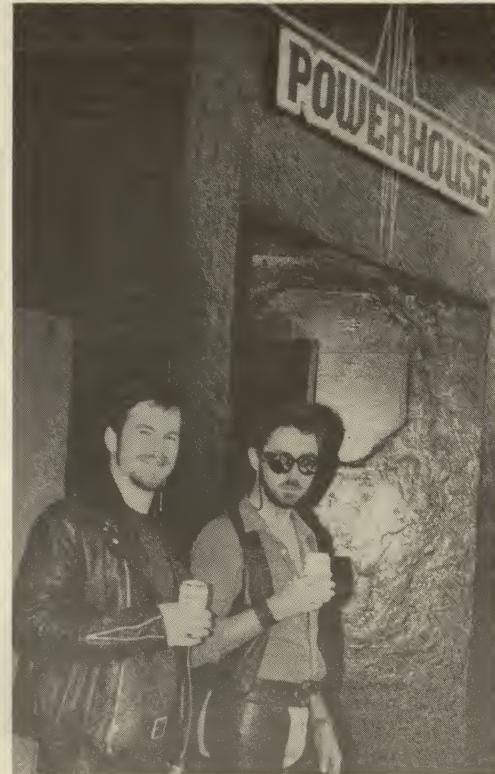
For comparison, anti-gay violence in the City's predominantly gay Castro District has fluctuated very little during this same period, ranging between 25 percent and 27 percent of the total.

And while anti-gay violence is on the rise in the City and throughout the Bay Area generally, the increase South of Market is far greater than for other areas of San Francisco.

In fact, beginning with 1989, South of Market surpassed any other single area in the City, outside the Castro, for anti-gay violence — and the trend appears to be continuing this year.

Residents of the area — gays and non-gays alike — say there are increasing problems in the neighborhood generally because of the large numbers of younger people who pour into the neighborhood for a night on the town.

One longtime resident said a beer-bottle was thrown at him one evening as he was walking home from a neighborhood grocery store. Someone yelled "fag" from a passing car of young guys as the bottle crashed against a building less than a foot from him. There have also been reports of groups of young men seen roaming the area with baseball bats and other visible weapons.



The Powerhouse lies between a cluster of straight bars and restaurants.

As gays and non-gays from the Bay Area increasingly encounter one another in what was once the nearly exclusive nighttime domain of leathermen, anti-gay incidents and overt violence are growing in the area. Much of this increased verbal harassment and physical assault, however, is going unreported to City authorities.

While police reports indicate anti-gay incidents throughout the City have increased at a rate of 16 percent during the first six months of 1990 compared with 1989, they also show no major increase in reported crimes in the South of Market area, except for a slight rise in crimes against property — car break-ins, thefts and the like.

Whether this means anti-gay incidents reflected in the CUAV figures simply aren't being reported to the police because they're low-level verbal name-calling that the police can do little about or whether, as some fear, more serious physical assaults are

not being reported as being anti-gay is less than certain.

David Brinken of the City's Human Rights Commission said he was "surprised" to hear about the CUAV figures because the commission had no particular information that would indicate a problem in the area one way or the other.

Brinken, however, did acknowledge that he was himself aware of the sorts of verbal name-calling on the rise in the area.

Many of the incidents being reported to CUAV apparently are not also being reported to the police and other authorities, and explanations for this reluctance range from cynicism about what, if anything, officials can do, to a resigned sense that the recent viciousness that's blossomed in the area just goes with the territory.

Dutch, a longtime resident of South of Market who lives on Harriet Street near Folsom, said of the new ugliness on the streets: "It's something you have to adjust to. You can't change things, so you either learn to cope with it or you better move."

## Origins of Clash

Beginning with the City's closure of the bathhouses in the area in the mid-1980s because of the AIDS epidemic, South of Market steadily lost a good deal of its attraction for gay men. Gay bars, restaurants and businesses quietly folded or relocated to other areas of the city. Gay men who once lived, worked and played in the neighborhood, succumbed to the epidemic as the area was quite literally decimated. Others simply moved out. Only the hardiest — or the luckiest — remained.

But during the past year or so, things have started turning slowly, almost imperceptibly, around. Last year the Lone Star Saloon opened, the first new gay bar South of Market in several years. Many of the other bars have bounced back after what had been one of the area's bleakest periods, and gay men are

(Continued on page 19)



The Stud has been the site of several anti-gay attacks.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

## A Therapy Group for Sexually Addicted Gay Men

If your sexual behavior is causing you problems in the area of relationships, jobs, health, money or self esteem, and you have tried unsuccessfully to change, then you may need the understanding and support of others to regain control of your sexuality.

Michael Bettinger, Ph.D.

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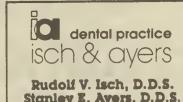
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## Britt Hosts Volunteer Mobilization for Domestic Partners

Supervisor Harry Britt hosts the kickoff of the Domestic Partners Campaign and the opening of the DPC Headquarters August 8, 10 a.m., 1586 Market Street.

Britt will address volunteers in the domestic partners initiative drive, which is Prop. K on the November ballot. Prop. K will allow lesbian and gay couples to register their domestic partnerships with the city and county of San Francisco.

Joining Britt, among other sponsors and supporters, will be supervisorial candidate Carole Migden.

"This initiative is simple," said Britt. "It recognizes the loving relationships of our gay and lesbian couples. The initiative is self-financing, and is the first step in recognizing the many types of families which give life to the people of San Francisco."

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by Kurt Erichsen

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oters will elect five San Franciscans to the Board of Supervisors on Nov. 6, and with the assurance that at least three of them will be non-incumbents — Supervisors Richard Hongisto, Wendy Nelder and Nancy Walker are giving up their seats on the Board — no less than 24 candidates have filed for the five seats up for grabs.

Incumbents Bill Maher and Doris Ward have filed for re-election and are expected to win easily, with Maher seen as the early favorite to become the next president of the board.

Early favorites among the challengers to win the three remaining seats in November are Democratic County Central Committee chairperson Carole Migden, attorney Roberta Achtenberg, attorney Carol Ruth Silver, a former supervisor attempting a political comeback, and Jim Lazarus, a vice president of the Chamber of Commerce who served as deputy mayor under former Mayor Dianne Feinstein.

A second layer of announced candidates with good name identification and thereby considered "serious" candidates include BART Director Arlo Hale Smith, former Police Commissioner Jose Medina, former GOP county chairperson Harriet Ross, Haight Ashbury neighborhood activist Joel Ventresca, and Kevin Shelley, the son of former Mayor Jack Shelley.

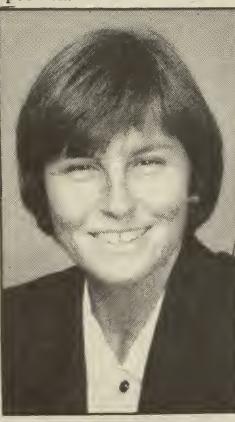
Others in the race include florist Harold Hoogasian, who has run for the office before; Daniel Addario, a former DEA agent; restaurant owner Jeffrey Chang Vu Duc Vuong, the city's first Vietnamese-American candidate; Thomas Adams, an engineering consultant; flight attendant Mildred Danch; minister Marilyn Gazowsky; investor Jim Robinson; former city attorney John Figone; administrative assistant Heidi Christensen; activist James Mangia; Small Business development Corp. executive Denert Queen; and Thomas Adams, who listed no occupation.

The highest vote-getter in the race for supervisor automatically becomes president of the board; the position is considered a part-time one, though it is the only income for several of the incumbents, and pays slightly over \$24,000 annually.

**Bush Aide Ousted?**

Douglas Wadsworth, a special assis-

tant to the president for public liaison, who admittedly wrote a letter on White House stationery criticizing the Bush administration for inviting members of the gay community to a Rose Garden ceremony where President Bush signed a Hate Crimes bill, has quietly "resigned" his position.



Bill Maher

Wadsworth had written the letter to religious and conservative groups, criticizing inviting gays to the White House, noting in the letter that "quite frankly, the president's staff did not serve him well by inviting some of the groups which attended the bill-signing ceremony."

Wadsworth made a reference specifically to gays that had been invited. Wadsworth claims, of course, that he had planned to leave the Bush White House "some time ago," but did tell a *Washington Post* reporter that his letter to conservative Republicans "did not make a lot of people [in the administration] happy."

**The Mission Bay Project**

One of the hardest fought measures on the local November ballot is expected to be the one known as the Mission Bay Project, which involves a \$2 billion project in the China Basin area that includes shopping center, housing development and covers more than 300 acres.

S.F./Berkeley-based campaign consultant Dick Pabich will direct the effort to get the project approved by voters in November . . .

**Feinstein, Wilson**

**Trade S&L Charges**

Dianne Feinstein, with her television ad linking GOP op-



Carole Migden

ponent Pete Wilson to the growing savings and loan scandal, appears to have really touched a sensitive point with the Senator.

Feinstein, noting that Wilson accepted over \$243,000 in campaign contributions in the past few years from the S&L industry, more than any other member of Congress, drew a reaction from Wilson that claimed Feinstein was getting involved in "character assassination."

It should be pointed out, certainly, that it was Wilson, with his weekly television ads, trying to link Feinstein's husband, Dick Blum, to the S&L scandal, who started the "war of the television spots."

Wilson, with his uncontested primary, was able to build up a campaign war chest of millions, affording him the luxury of non-stop anti-Feinstein television spots since the day of the primary, seems to be able to dish it out, but taking it back appears to be another story.

This campaign to replace George Deukmejian in Sacramento promises to become a beauty; the stakes are high in this one and both sides are digging in for a tough, hard-fought, very mean campaign.

**Barry Dodes Bullet**

The sight of D.C. Mayor Marion Barry, tears in eyes and all, asking that city's residents for forgiveness and forgetfulness (you see, he now wants everyone to "forget" his latest legal problems) must have been a bit too much for some of even his staunchest supporters.

The mayor, having dodged a legal bullet last week, un-

(Continued on page 22)

## No Longer *MS*-ing in Action

When *Ms.* magazine was previewed in spring 1972, it included an interview by Anne Koedt of New York Radical Feminists called "Can Women Love Women?"

And when *Ms.* made its official debut in July 1972, it featured an article by Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon called "Lesbian Love and Sexuality" (an excerpt from their then-forthcoming, now classic book, *Lesbian Woman*).

Of course, this first issue also contained the inevitable letter criticizing the Koedt piece for "perpetuating the... myth... that Women's Liberation is a stepping-stone to lesbianism."

From her mouth to the Goddess' ear! No, I'm afraid the process isn't that instantaneous, unfortunately; it sure would have saved me a lot of tuis. *Ms.* came out more than 10 years before I did; at the time, the names Martin and Lewis meant more to me than Martin and Lyon.

But by the time I got around to looking for lesbians in *Ms.*, the magazine had very definitely "straightened" up its act. Its major lesbian presence was openly gay writer Lindsay Van Gelder, who usually wrote about—computers.

Under other circumstances, I might have appreciated the fact that Van Gelder was able to write as a person and not as a "professional lesbian." But the dearth of openly gay women in *Ms.* made

the magazine's decision to use Van Gelder as a technowriter seem more like censorship than recognition of her varied interests.

The low point for *Ms.*, as a feminist as well as a lesbian-oriented publication, might very well have been the May 1989 issue, whose theme was "The Heat Is On: Sex, Romance, Love & Lust In The '90s."

Despite the issue's editorial claim that "something seemed to be happening out there and we decided to take a closer look," *Ms.* wasn't looking all that closely, especially when what was happening was happening between two women.

Not that lesbians were ignored altogether. But that might have been the better alternative considering how this particular issue of *Ms.* chose to depict us.

First, essayist Barbara Ehrenreich, in her article "Single Jeopardy," included as single people "those—gays and lesbians—who may be in couples but are barred from marriage by law." You know the name of that tune: if State, Church and Society don't consider you a couple, then you aren't, despite your joint checking account and anniversary dinners.

The coup de grace, though, was an article by Florence King in which she admitted to having used relationships with women to recover (or escape) from self-destructive li-

asons with men.

King then abandoned her gay lovers when they—and their lesbian sisters—dared to come out publicly as happy and well-adjusted women.

Not that King was closeted herself, but rather, as she wrote, "I can't stand being a part of what is called the 'mainstream'... No matter how good the sex was, I could not shake the feeling that I was part of some hideous trend."

Feh! This, in the same issue that featured a how-to piece on how to wash silk! Whatever happened to "Body Hair: The Last Frontier"?

Then, just as I gave up on *Ms.*, *Ms.* gave up, period. Having undergone its third change of ownership, the magazine ceased publication. Rest in peace.

But not too peacefully. Rumors snaked through the feminist underground: *Ms.* would be resurrected as a subscriber-only newsletter. *Ms.* would come out only a few times a year, would have no advertising, would be prohibitively expensive.

At last, in July—18 years after the magazine's premiere—news came in the guise of a former-subscriber mailing. "How does the idea of a totally ADVERTISING-FREE and EDITORIALLY FREE *Ms.* sound to you?" asked the purple-enveloped letter from new publisher Ruth Bower.

Sounds great Ruth, but I'll believe it when I see it.



Singer k.d. lang

(Photo: Barbara Maggiani)

Then I saw it. And I believe.

It is advertising-free. It is editorially free. It is affordable, if not cheap. It is glorious.

And, it's got lesbians coming out of its ears.

Sure, the promotional mailing made promises, teasing us with proposed articles such as "Measuring Progress by the 'L' Word: If You Can't Say Lesbian, What Can You Say?" But since *Ms.* had stopped saying the "L' Word" years ago, I was wary of token.

Apparently, though, the readers had spoken, and new editor-in-chief Robin Morgan had listened. The pre-publication mailing asked former subscribers what they did and didn't want to see in the new *Ms.* And topping the "want to see" list was "lesbian issues, relationships, parenting."

You want it, you got it.

No gay-themed feature articles, yet (we're waiting), but: reviews of three lesbian

books; an admission by Gloria Steinem (recounting the magazine's advertising history) that "It's obvious that *Ms.* can't exclude lesbians and serve women"; mentions of lesbianism in articles on aging and on international feminism.

And, best of all, a conversation between k.d. lang and Lesley Gore.

This last item will perk up the ears of most lesbians I know, for reasons I can't spell out here (thanks to libel laws). Not surprisingly, the dialogue between the two singers is more notable for what is omitted than for what is reported.

Still, I grew hopeful as I read the part where Lesley asks k.d. whether she's felt pressure because she "chooses to remain unmarried." When k.d. agrees, Lesley notes that "It's always been a problem for me, and in 27 years I haven't seen attitudes improve"; and k.d. responds,

(Continued on page 21)

### Gay/Lesbian Programs

#### Deep Dish TV

Monday, Aug. 20, 8 p.m., SF Viacom 25: A new weekly program of interest to lesbians and gay men. Part 2 of *Public Access: Spigot for Bigots or Channels for Change*, what happens when civil liberties versus civil rights.

#### Helping Hands

Monday, 7 p.m., SF Viacom 6  
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., SF Viacom 6

#### Messiah Theatre Productions

Friday, 10:30 p.m., SF Viacom 25: Starring John De Messiah and entourage.

#### Here to Stay

Thursday, (2nd, 4th) 10 p.m., SF Viacom 25: The gay and lesbian talk show features segments from the Gay Games in Vancouver.

#### Community Action News

Monday, 7:30 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30  
Wednesday, (1st, 3rd) 10 p.m., PCTV (Oakland, East Bay)  
Thursday, (1st, 3rd) 6:30 p.m., SF Viacom 6

#### Outlook

Tuesday, (1th) 10 p.m., Sacramento Cable 63  
Wednesday, (1st, 3rd) 9 p.m., PCTV (Oakland, East Bay)  
Thursday, 8:30 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30; (4th) 6:30 p.m., SF Viacom 6  
Friday, (2nd, 4th) 7:30 p.m., Los Altos, Cupertino Cable 30; (2nd, 4th) 5 p.m., San Jose Cable 2B: Lesbian judge  
Donna Hitchens; poet Jon Sugar; Dave & David at the movies; resident wit Bennett Marks; and our radiant hosts, Dan & DeeDee.

#### Electric City

Sunday, Aug. 19, 10 p.m., SF Viacom 35  
Tuesday, Aug. 21, 10 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30  
Wednesday, Aug. 22, 8 p.m., SF Viacom 35: Peter Barkley; Dennis Peron; the Club Uranus Dancers; Elizabeth Taylor & more.

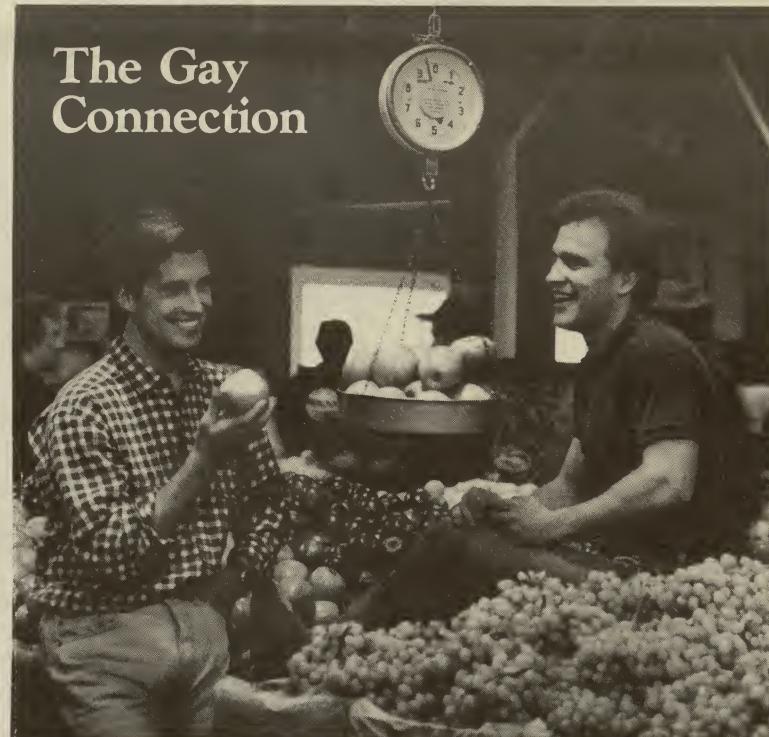
#### Hibernia Beach/Rubyfruit Terrace

Sunday, 7 a.m., KITS 105.3 FM: Issues of concern to gay men and lesbians alternates every week.

#### Fruit Punch

Wednesday, 10 p.m., KPFA 94.1 FM: News, interviews, reviews.

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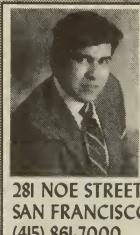
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## Activists Battling Newspaper

by M.R. Covino

SACRAMENTO — Local gay and lesbian groups in Sacramento continue to struggle with what are considered drastic homophobic and sexist changes in editorial policy at the *Sacramento Union*.

The *Union* was recently acquired by local developer, Dan Benvenuti, a fundamentalist Christian. Speculation had it that Benvenuti bought the newspaper in order to kill it, take the tax loss, and then develop the prime property on which the business is located.

Events in recent weeks have fueled that speculation. Respected journalists are leaving the *Union*, and many others are trying to find new jobs.

Former staffers are voicing concerns about the direction the paper is taking. One editor cites Jay Baggett, described as "a friend of Benvenuti's from the Capital Christian Center," as "de facto ruler at the paper."

"He instantly became a presence in the newsroom — a non-professional — writing long memos on editorial positions which we were to take. I doubt if Benvenuti even finished high school ... so this guy [Baggett] explains to him why his conservative Christian instincts are correct."

Staffers relate that a respected, experienced editor was "forced out" of his job a few weeks ago because "he fought Baggett's attempts to insinuate his anti-abortion and anti-gay stances onto page one." The editor was replaced by Joseph Farah, a fundamentalist "strong man" type from Southern California.

One reporter states flatly, "We're being forced to do biased reporting — we can't be objective. We're expressing

opinions in straight news coverage, and I no longer want to be associated with such a newspaper." Another cited Farah's recent editorial decision to check the book review page for "proper content" as "an unnecessary form of censorship."

One source tells of a by-lined story about the National Organization for Women's reaction to the Souter Supreme Court nomination. According to the source, the story was reworked without the reporter's knowledge to describe NOW as "the radical women's group," and a phrase was added, which said, "Souter has never rendered a decision on the killing of the unborn."

A Farah memo dated July 27 reminds staff they are henceforth not to use the word "gay" but to use the word "homosexual" in news stories. An August 6 memo states "euphemisms for abortion clinics such as 'women's health center' are not acceptable unless part of a proper name."

A former *Union* staffer seemed to sum up the feelings of many of her co-workers: "It's become nothing but an organ for the Christian fundamentalist church, and while it's not without precedent that papers have leaned one way or another editorially, this extremist religious and political angle is unheard of in the mainstream press."

Members of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation and ACT-UP have been trying, without success, to meet with Farah regarding homophobic editorial cartoons, articles, columns and letters to the editor which have been appearing almost daily in the paper since his takeover. The GLAAD executive board met

in an emergency planning session Tuesday, August 14, after Farah reportedly refused to meet with them.

When contacted by the B.A.R., Farah said he did not refuse to meet with GLAAD. "I discouraged the idea of a meeting," he said. "I told Rev. Rodgers [GLAAD co-chair Rev. John Rodgers] that we had to get a few things straight. I told him that we have differing opinions — two distinct perspectives on things and that I'm unlikely to change my mind."

"I've studied homosexuals for 11 years, and I don't see why we need to waste our time in a meeting. I'm not going to go into any discussion with an open mind," (Farah and Rodgers finally did set a meeting for Aug. 16.)

Farah also denied any knowledge of a proposed boycott of the paper. When asked whether the paper is establishing a definable editorial and news policy regarding abortion and the gay and lesbian community, Farah said, "I am the editor of this paper in both the editorial and news areas. Direction is being set by me, and I have definite positions about things. I assume it [those positions] will affect news coverage — my opinions will shape editorial as well as news coverage — but that doesn't mean that it has to be unfair or unbalanced."

"This paper has a different point of view from establishment media. By that I mean this is a pro-life paper. We have a clear-cut position, protecting the life of the unborn, that is paramount. As for homosexuality, we have no clearly defined issue, but we don't believe that there should be any special privileges derived by them just because of their sexuality or their lifestyle." ▀

### Compound Q

(Continued from page 4)

sions at a clinic in southern Florida. AZT was no longer helping him, and his T-cell count was falling when he commenced Compound Q infusions every six weeks. He reports a big increase in energy — previously he was exhausted all the time — and a stabilization, but no increase in his T-cells. He's had no specific problems with his treatments, but notes, "I'm extremely tired for a couple of days after the infusion, and then I'm bouncing off the walls again."

Compound Q's undesirable effects stem from the fact that it is a foreign protein injected into the blood stream. Such an introduction can provoke immediate, life-threatening allergic reactions. There is no telling whether a patient will go into allergic shock during any particular infusion. At Uncle Gene's Lab, somebody is poised over the infusee, ready to give him or her a shot of adrenaline within seconds of the onset of allergic collapse.

Compound Q's mode of action also can be hard on the body. It works by killing white blood cells that are infected with the AIDS-triggering virus HIV. The waste products that accumulate during this widespread cell death take a lot of energy to eliminate.

one is in trouble if he or she thinks that the phrase "a rolling stone gathers no moss" is about the effect of friction rather than human rootlessness

Is such a dangerous drug worth taking? It is now evident that Compound Q is at best an effective HIV suppressor, not a cure. No one has become entirely free of the virus. Little proof of any efficacy at all was presented at the forum, with Terry Beswick promising publication of Project Inform's findings in a doctor-refereed medical journal this fall. They then will be more fully open to public inspection and criticism. An article in a respected magazine "should give Q a boost, a stamp of approval," Beswick says.

Uncle Gene's Lab organizer Jim Beale insists, "We believe that the dangers can be identified, prevented or interrupted." In the meantime, Compound Q's enthusiasts have personal horror stories to recount along with their testimonials. The drug remains one for those in the direst straits, but these are the people who can be helped the least. PWAs with low T-cell counts are most likely to suffer Q's side effects, and even if they can tolerate the drug and get their HIV infections under control, there is no way to reverse the extensive damage to their immune systems. ▀

too, the side effect's occurrence is unpredictable at present. Fortunately, the slide into coma takes about 12 hours and can be blocked with steroid drugs. Psychologist Greg Dubs devoted a whole speech at the community forum to detecting pre-coma mental status changes.

According to Dubs, a friend has to stay with an HIVer for up to 60 hours after an infusion and administer a "mental status exam" every four hours, including during the night. The lengthy interrogation ranges from factual questions like "What is your name?" to requests to repeat series of numbers forwards and backwards. The most intriguing part of the exam is proverb interpretation. Some-

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## Games

(Continued from page 1)

as well as toss the baton high into the air, do a cartwheel or flip, and catch the baton on its return without a mistake.

The Lesbian and Gay Bands of America were followed by a couple of cheerleading groups. San Francisco's own Bay Area Raw Rabs, led by captain and choreographer Guy Andrade, started things off with some enthusiastic singing, dancing and pom-pom shaking.

Next, the Seattle cheerleaders, who were coordinated by Randy Hansen, took the stage and executed similar feats of cheerleading daring-do to a spirited response from the crowd.

The cheerleading performances were followed by the "Parade of Champions," which was supposed to bring before the stadium audience the winners in the various sports categories.

Unlike the highly organized and lengthy parade of athletes in the opening ceremonies, this degenerated into a much more informal foray onto the field by the participating athletes.

Throughout the entire parade, the crowd remained on its feet cheering sporting champions.

The flags of the participating countries and cities preceded the athletes. During this informal procession, announcements were made about the winners in various sporting events. Highlights included the setting of several Masters world records in

swimming, which because they had been internationally sanctioned, will now go down in the record books.

Another highlight was the gold-medal performance of 66-year-old Sarah Davis of San Francisco.

After the parade of champions and athletes, Robin Tyler, who also emceed the opening ceremonies, took the stage. Tyler spoke beautifully about what an empowering and emotional experience the Gay Games had been for her and how happy and grateful she was to be in Vancouver.

Before the Games, she said that she had never envisioned herself returning so triumphantly to Canada, the country of her birth. Tyler interspersed her speech with liberal doses of humor to the sincere amusement of the audience.

Tyler was followed by the Celebration '90 Festival Chorus, featuring Joelle Rabu, singing "Esperanto," a song written especially for the Games by Rabu and Douglas Dodd.

This was followed by the presentation by Sara Lewinstein of the Tom Waddell Cup to the Games' Most Outstanding Participant, San Francisco's Paul Martz. Then the Festival Chorus sang "Never Turning Back," which was written by Pat Humphries and dedicated to Waddell.

Long John Baldry, for whom Elton John used to play keyboards (and from whom Elton John derived his name), came next. Baldry heartily performed a couple of songs and told the crowd how honored he felt to be a part of the Games' festivities.

The audience gave Baldry an ovation.

Baldry was followed by the passing of the Gay Games flag. Betty Baxter and Richard Dopson of the Metropolitan Vancouver Athletics and Arts Association, introduced Mark Mees, the executive director of Celebration '90, who spoke to the crowd about what an enriching experience the Gay Games had been.

Peg Gray and Rick Peter of the Federation of Gay Games announced, after a drawn-out speech (I assume to produce some suspense), that the host city of the next Gay Games in 1994 would be New York City.

After much screaming and shouting, the crowd quieted down and the a cappella group, the Nylons, gave a rousing half-hour performance that had athletes and spectators on their feet, singing and dancing along.

After the Nylons, "Carneval!" the festival fantasy parade, began. When it was all over, the announcer said goodbye, the lights went up and the crowd slowly left the stadium for the Plaza of Nations next-door, where the last dance and celebration of Gay Games III was taking place. ▼



Closing Ceremonies at B.C. Stadium in Vancouver.



Women's softball

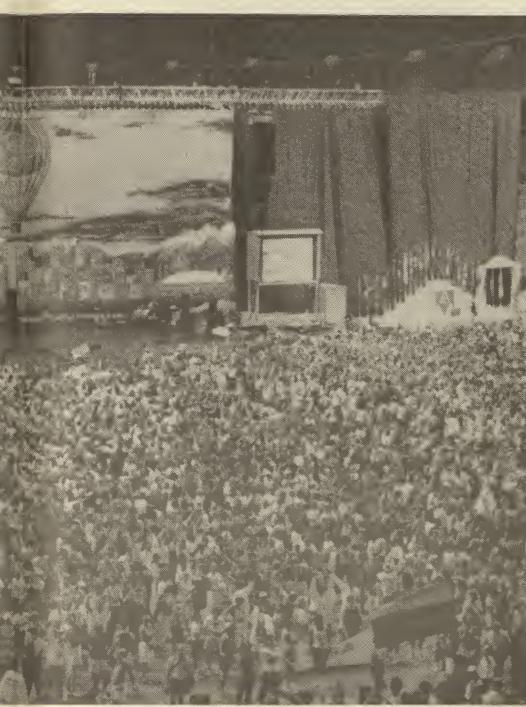


Women's Physique contender



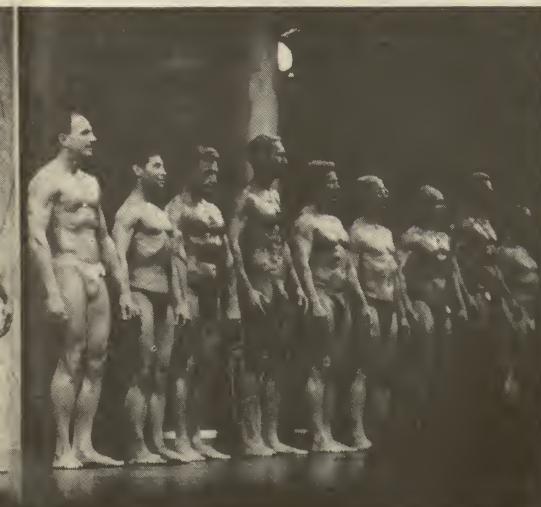
Men's physique competitor

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## Gay Games Results, Page 40

by Darlene/PhotoGraphics



# Local Daily Newspapers Basically Ignored Gay Games

by Keith Clark

While the nation's gay press has been abuzz with features, previews and news reports on Gay Games III in Vancouver, the daily press in Northern California, with one notable exception, has been generally silent on what was the largest amateur sporting event in North America this year.

One San Francisco daily, the *Examiner*, carried news reports on its sports pages about the event, thereby continuing to make journalistic history as the only major daily in the country to cover lesbian/gay sporting events on its sports pages. Only three other publications in the region carried any coverage of the Games at all.

On Aug. 2 *Examiner* senior sports writer Dwight Chapin wrote a preview article, "Gay Games keeps its S.F. flavor."

The *Examiner* carried subsequent coverage of the Games on its sports pages with two wire service and staff reports out of Vancouver during the week.

On Sunday, Aug. 5, the *Examiner* ran a report on the opening of the Games in Vancouver. On Aug. 12, the

paper published a sports feature on world cycling champion and former U.S. Olympic team member Cindy Olavarri of Team Berkeley, who won two gold medals and one silver in swimming at the Games.

Despite the heavy participation by local athletes — there were more than 2,000 athletes from California — the daily press here otherwise largely ignored the Games.

The *Sacramento Bee* ran an overview piece from the *Seattle Times* in its "Sunday" section Aug. 12 but nothing on the sports pages. Similarly, the *San Jose Mercury News* ran an Aug. 1 piece in its local news section on Connie Steinman, one of the 123-member strong Team San Jose, who participated in the Games' marathon event.

And on Aug. 5 the *Oakland Tribune* reduced an AP wire story to a "news brief" that ran in the paper's main news section.

Despite the intense local interest in a sporting event that turned out to be even larger than the Goodwill Games, none of the other local papers being monitored carried anything at all about the Gay Games. The papers being checked for coverage

during the event were the *San Francisco Examiner*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *San Jose Mercury News*, *Marin Independent Journal*, *Oakland Tribune*, *Contra Costa Times*, *Sacramento Bee*, and *Sacramento Union*.

GLAAD/San Francisco Bay Area Co-Chair Jesse Greenman told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "Aside from the *Examiner*'s continued pioneering coverage of the Gay Games as a sporting event, GLAAD/SFBA is extremely disappointed in the response of local and national media to this historic international event."

"It's tantamount to making the 1987 March on Washington invisible. We tried to forestall that happening in the case of Gay Games III, which was the largest multisport event in 1990 in the world. Yet for all intents and purposes, it was invisible to the non-gay community."

Greenman said she had already been in touch with GLAAD's national office about the possibility of the media watchdog group mounting some sort of major response over the poor media coverage throughout the country. ▼

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## National Briefs

### Dukakis Vetoes Foster Care Limits

Massachusetts gay activists claimed a major victory when Gov. Michael Dukakis vetoed a budget amendment that could have restricted the rights of gays and lesbians to adopt, be guardians or be foster parents of children. Dukakis announced the veto prior to his signing of the 1990 budget, which passed the Legislature in early August. Dukakis created an explosion of controversy in 1985 when he ordered the removal of two foster children from the home of two gay men. The Massachusetts Legislature followed Dukakis' example by attaching even more restrictive language to the budget each year. 1990 is the first year since 1985 that lesbians and gays have managed to defeat this restrictive language. The foster care veto came in response to public pressure and lobbying orchestrated by the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights.

### Creating Change Scholarships

Scholarship assistance is available for people of color and people with disabilities who would like to attend the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Creating Change Conference. The conference, to be held in Minneapolis Nov. 9-12, is the preeminent political and skills-building gathering for gay and lesbian activists. The Chicago Resource Center has provided a grant to help NGLTF fund a scholarship program for the conference. The limited scholarship assistance will provide for some travel and other expenses. The conference will feature 42 workshops, plus plenary sessions, provocative speakers, caucuses, an "agit-prop" swap shop, and social events. Special Fundraising and People of Color pre-conference institutes will be held on Nov. 9. The scholarships may be used to attend the institutes. To apply for a scholarship, send a letter of introduction stating your community involvement, ability to raise matching funds from your organization or community, reasons for attending the conference, and the extent to which your attendance is determined by a financial aid award. Letters must be returned to NGLTF by Friday, Aug. 31. Applications received after deadline will be considered depending on award availability. Send applications to NGLTF Creating Change, 1517 U St. NW, Washington, D.C., 20009. Call Ivy Young at NGLTF, (202) 332-6483, for more information.

### Studds Requests Pentagon Probe

U.S. Rep. Gerry Studds (D-Mass.) has called for an in-depth investigation of the Pentagon's prohibition against gay men and lesbians. Studds, an outspoken critic of the Pentagon policy, was joined in his request by Reps. John Conyers (D-Mich.), chairman of the House Committee on Government Operations, and Ted Weiss (D-N.Y.), a long-time gay rights advocate and chairman of a Government Operations subcommittee. Studds obtained and released in October 1989 a long-suppressed Pentagon report that questioned the anti-gay policy. The GAO study he requested would examine in-depth the ban and its consequences. Studds has requested that the study be completed before the year's end, clearing the way for congressional hearings on the policy early in the next session of Congress.

### Congress OKs AIDS CARE Bill

WASHINGTON — In a last minute flurry of activity prior to going away for their summer recess, the House and Senate on Aug. 5 granted final approval to a comprehensive measure that will, during the next five years, funnel \$4.4 billion in disaster relief funds to areas particularly hard hit by the AIDS epidemic. The bill, titled the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act of 1990, authorizes \$875 million a year for the next two years and such funds as will be necessary for the following three years to be spent on health care and support services for people with AIDS. Funds for the 1991 implementation of the measure are included in the House-approved version of the Health and Human Services appropriations bill. Those funds, however, are not yet earmarked for the AIDS care package and could vary widely from the proposal's targets by the time the funding bill is signed into law. Despite President Bush's initial complaints with the disease-specific nature of the bill, a White House spokesperson confirmed Aug. 7 that Bush will sign the measure, although there is no date set for that action.

### N.J. Next in Record Sticker Flap

Louisiana Gov. Buddy Roemer on July 25 may have vetoed what would have become the nation's first measure to order warning labels on records and controversial lyrics — including those deemed to promote "sodomy" — but some state lawmakers are still eyeing similar proposals with keen interest. Gathered in Nashville, Tenn., for a convention of state lawmakers, pro-labeling legislators faced off with record industry executives, anti-censorship activists and parents' advocates over the contested issue. At the center of the storm was the still-simmering matter of explicit lyrics in some rock and rap songs and what conservative representatives called the "dangerous" impact those words may have on children. At the Nashville session on record sticker, a number of state legislators chided the anti-labeling forces for allowing such lyrics to be put on records and hinted that they may yet push for state legislation to address the issue. RIAA executives were joined by representatives from the liberal People for the American Way as well as Tipper Gore of the Parents Music Resource Center in supporting the voluntary program over state mandated labels. Now that the Louisiana bill has been killed and shows no sign of coming back this year, record industry activists are focusing their efforts on the New Jersey legislature where a record labeling bill is pending.

# Right-Wing Up in Arms After Bush Boots Anti-Gay Staffer

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON — The Bush White House set right-wing forces into a tailspin in early August after a staffer who had been the most vocal critic of the administration's inviting gay men and lesbians to two recent bill-signing ceremonies was fired.

Doug Wead had been the administration's special assistant to the president for public liaison when, after 19 contentious months in the White House, he was told to leave.

The administration's liaison to evangelical religious groups and a close associate of the president's son, George Bush Jr., Wead was not given an official reason for his dismissal.

He had, however, reportedly raised the hackles of some White House higher-ups when, on official White House stationery, last May he wrote leaders of the religious right saying that the president's staff "did not serve him well" by inviting gay and lesbian activists to the White House for a bill

signing.

Conservatives had taken issue with the White House's decision last spring to invite members of several gay and lesbian rights groups to the official signing of the Hate Crimes Statistics Act, a bill for which they had lobbied.

Following the furor concerning the gay invites, Wead wrote religious forces explaining that "in no way" did Bush "endorse the lifestyle of all groups attending" the ceremony.

"If in fact it is true ... that [Wead] was terminated because of his opposition to gays in the White House, we think that President Bush is to be commended for standing by his principles of inclusion," Robert Bray, public information officer for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, said. "It made sense for us to be at those ceremonies. It is anti-democratic to exclude gays and lesbians from going to the White House and witnessing the signing and celebration of legislation that

affects our community."

More recently, gay and lesbian activists were again invited to the White House, this time for the official signing of the Americans With Disabilities Act, a bill that outlaws discrimination on the basis of disability, including AIDS and HIV infection.

Now, the Rev. Richard Land, director of the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, has reportedly written Bush demanding a meeting regarding Wead's termination and the gay White House invitations.

The *Washington Post* reported Aug. 8 that White House staffers had for months been at odds with Wead because of his tendency to act independent of other administration officials, a major offense in the Bush White House.

Wead's letter on the gay invitations, the *Post* reported, was the last straw for his

(Continued on page 24)

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# A Consumer's Prospective

by Michael C. Botkin

**T**he fear of being uninsured looms large for HIVers. Ten years ago I never gave a thought to health insurance. I had a number of vague safety nets, like the student health services of the universities I casually "studied" at the free gay VD clinic, and — at last resort — my parents.

AIDS, of course, has transformed my awareness. Looking back I can see how hopelessly inadequate those student health services would be (and are) at dealing with HIV.

My parents, or any other family, would quickly go bankrupt trying to fund serious AIDS care privately. For any catastrophic illness you either need quality insurance or you end up, in short order, at the county hospital, which many consider a fate only one step removed from death.

## Going Gets Tough...

Insurance can be elusive for HIVers, as John McGann of Houston discovered. John was diagnosed with AIDS in 1987. Seven months later his employers changed their health benefits package. The

new coverage, pretty obviously written with John specifically in mind, put a \$5,000 "cap" on AIDS benefits.

In other words, the insurer would only be responsible for covering \$5,000 of his AIDS treatment costs — for his entire life. John sued his boss and the new insurer, claiming that the switch violated his federal benefits rights as established by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (aka ERISA).

This was going down in Texas, where discrimination against HIVers is legal, so he couldn't sue them for that, however obvious it was. As for legal protection against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, don't make them laugh.

John just lost his case, which is very bad news for HIVers. ERISA is already considered a pretty feeble defense against insurance abuse by the big corporations, and this decision opens up another gaping loophole in its flimsy structure. Legislation like the recently passed Americans with Disabilities Act helps patch these gaps, but overall the safety net provided by health insurance has an unreliable feel to it.

## Such a Deal

After spending about a year and a half as a ward of the state, as far as my health care goes, I have recently rejoined the ranks of the insured. At first I considered this prospect with glee. I'd feared that I would never be insured again. I have an official ARC diagnosis, which is not legally concealable the way merely testing HIV positive is, and assumed no sane or solvent insurance company would ever pick me up.

I was amazed to discover that Health Maintenance Organizations, unlike private insurers, rarely "exclude pre-existing conditions" (i.e., refuse to pay for AIDS treatments).

Now that I've experienced insurance coverage, I'm not confident that it's the unmitigated bliss one would anticipate from the excited way people pursue it.

When I went to San Francisco General Hospital's Ward 86 for my care, I was simply assigned to a nurse, as opposed to choosing a doctor from the dozens on my HMO list. In practice, however, and not real surprising when you stop to think about it, my assigned nurse at General has more experience with HIV than just about anybody. But when I started calling all of the famous AIDS doctors on my HMO list, I found that none of them were taking new patients for THAT HMO.

## Catch 22

Welcome to the first double-bind in the wonderful world of insurance. Groucho Marx once said that any club willing to tolerate him as a member, he wasn't willing to join. Likewise, any insurance company willing to take me is probably not real popular with health-care providers. My partner discovered this when he was hospitalized with appendicitis. When he told doctors who his HMO was, they would jump as though someone were scratching their nails on a black-

board.

I finally found a doctor with a good rep with an open slot, and in fact, so far I'm happy with him, though it was strange at first going to a private office instead of a room filled with HIVers. It was also strange going to drug store instead of General's pharmacy — and when I did I discovered just how unpopular even insured HIVers can be with private health-care providers.

At General, you take your prescription downstairs and give it to the pharmacist, who gives you a ticket in return. If you have nothing better to do

or have limited transportation, you then wait about three hours for them to fill it. If, like me, you live nearby, you just drop off the 'scrip and pick it up the next day.

My first day as an insured man, I took my new prescription to the pharmacy located in my doctor's professional building — Keck's. I gave the bland looking pharmacist my 'scrip and my newly issued temporary insurance ID card. He looked at the card and shrugged slightly. He looked at the 'scrip (for AZT and Acyclovir) and froze in horror.

(Continued on page 22)

## AIDS Briefs

### AIDS Clinical Trial for MAC

People with AIDS are living longer due to the progress being made in the treatment of the disease and associated opportunistic infections. Because of increased life expectancy of people with AIDS there is increasing need for drugs to prevent common AIDS-related infections, such as MAC, mycobacterium avium complex. HIVCare is beginning a new study of Rifabutin Therapy for the prevention of MAC bacterium. This clinical trial is the first MAC prophylaxis study using Rifabutin in the Bay Area and the second site to be initiated in California. The 24-month study funded by ADRIA Laboratories is a phase III study open to 750 individuals. It is a double-blind, placebo-controlled study for people with AIDS with CD4 counts less than or equal to 200. HIVCare at Saint Francis Memorial Hospital is a community-based AIDS clinical trial group funded in part by a start-up grant from the Saint Francis Foundation. HIVCare is a member of the Community Based Clinical Trial Network (CBCTN) supported by American Foundation for AIDS Research. For information regarding inclusion/exclusion criteria of the Rifabutin Therapy HIVCare clinical study, please contact Drew Catapano, HIVCare Client Coordinator at (415) 775-4321, ext. 2512.

### Volunteer Services Worth \$7 million

The AIDS Service Providers Association of the Bay Area has released its *Report on AIDS Volunteers in San Francisco*. Based on a survey of San Francisco-based AIDS services and the current and projected needs for additional volunteers. The significant number of additional volunteers needed within one year raises the question as to whether it is realistic to plan for volunteers to continue to provide the proportion of AIDS services they currently do, or whether some of their functions may have to be fulfilled by paid staff, or be eliminated. The report's key findings include the following: Over 3,000 people are volunteers with AIDS organizations in San Francisco. However, 4,200 are needed. Volunteers provide direct services to people with HIV disease at the rate of over 530,000 hours per year, or over 1,460 hours each day. This is the equivalent of 267 full-time employees. In comparison, the responding agencies (other than hospitals) have a total of 357 full-time employees. The annual value of volunteered direct services exceeds \$7 million. Four agencies provide 80 percent of the direct AIDS volunteer hours in San Francisco: Shanti Project, 34 percent; Open Hand, 17 percent; Visiting Nurses and Hospice of San Francisco, 15 percent; and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 13 percent.

### Rummage Sale to Benefit Coming Home

The Men's Associated Exchange will host its second annual Sidewalk Rummage Sale on August 18 to benefit Coming Home Hospice. The sale will be in front of the parking lot of the Most Holy Redeemer Church on Diamond Street, between 18th and 19th streets, from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. The Men's Associated Exchange is a non-partisan, non-profit, membership supported organization for gay men. MAX's mission is to have fun and support a positive identity in the gay community through social, philanthropic, educational and athletic activities. Coming Home Hospice provides support and care for persons facing life-threatening illness. For more information contact: Mark Goodson (415) 255-2455.

### Pennies Project Hits \$250,000

The AIDS Emergency Fund's "Every Penny Counts" project marked its third anniversary on Aug. 18. The project has raised a quarter of a million dollars to help the AEF provide immediate financial assistance to people living with AIDS or ARC. The project began when David Slocum, a patron of "The Gate," suggested to then bartender Fred Skau that an empty jar be placed atop the bar so customers could throw their loose pennies into it. The initial goal of the project was to raise \$10,000 by Christmas '87, to be given to the AIDS Emergency Fund. After several weeks, it was realized that there existed amazing sources of untapped money, currently forgotten in pockets, purses, closets, dresser drawers, etc. After approximately 45 days another business decided to help The Gate raise the \$10,000; and after another month, it started to fan out to include other establishments. Today there are pennies coming from Petaluma to Santa Clara.



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# Miller

filed by "Re-Elect Jesse Helms," which defines itself as an independent expenditure campaign of the Conservative Campaign Fund in Washington.

The groups in the complaint are specifically charged with not being registered as political committees, which makes it illegal for them to spend funds in connection with a federal election.

Peter Flaherty, chairman of the Conservative Campaign Fund, said that "Failure by the Federal Election Commission to take immediate action will cause irreparable harm to the supporters of 'Re-Elect Jesse Helms'."

The CCF said the purpose of the Miller boycott was really to defeat Helms, based on a news story in the July 27 *Washington Blade*. In the article, spokespersons for ACT UP/San Francisco and ACT UP/DC make what the complaint says are admissions "of activities apparently designed to illegally influence the outcome of a federal election."

"We've got until November to take whatever measures are at hand to defeat Jesse Helms," a person from ACT UP/San Francisco said. "We've been hurt in the gay and lesbian community by Helms' bigotry," said another person with ACT UP/DC. "They have to understand that we have got to get rid of Helms."

The complaint also quotes a phone message tape at the ACT UP/DC office that allegedly states, "ACT UP/DC is sponsoring a Marlboro and Miller boycott aimed at unseating Sen. Jesse Helms."

The Federal Election Commission has informed those charged that they have 15 days to respond.

ACT UP attorneys in New York and San Francisco have begun drafting a response.

A preliminary review of the charges indicates the most serious consequence would be to force ACT UP to register



as a political action committee with the Federal Election Commission. As part of the investigation process, the FEC could force ACT UP to produce documents, including bank records, through a subpoena. Individuals could also be subpoenaed to appear for depositions.

The complaint arrived the same day ACT UP instituted a sophisticated national boycott information network. By calling 1-800-666-3308, information is provided about boycott activities in almost 15 cities across the country.

Boycott organizers said the "666" exchange was specifically selected "to ward off fundamentalist and right-wing extremists who may try to tie up the line." The 666 number is the religious reference to the "mark of the beast."

Last week Tom Reed, director of Corporate Issues for Miller Brewing, rejected a request for a meeting by ACT UP/San Francisco spokesperson Bill Haskell. In a letter to

ACT UP dated Aug. 9, he repeated an earlier statement, saying, "We disagree with Sen. Helms on human rights issues."

"Perhaps your group's efforts would be better spent focusing on the state and senate race that is of concern to you rather than trying to damage a longtime supporter of your community," Reed said.

"Obviously, there are a great number of gays and lesbians who remember and appreciate the contributions we have made through the years. We are gratified by the gay bar owners and their customers who have stood by Miller and our distributors during the last several weeks."

In closing, Reed said, "Rather than hurting a supportive friend with boycotts and demands, we'd like to see you channel your efforts toward supporting corporations around the country that are helping in the fight against AIDS." ▼

## SOMA

(Continued from page 9)

again moving back into the neighborhood as well.

After being open only a few months, the Lone Star was devastated by last October's earthquake and is only now gearing up to reopen on Harrison near 10th Street, across from what was once the popular Ambush bar. The reopening, scheduled for later this month, is itself another indicator of the area's increasing gay vitality.

And the re-emerging South of Market sex scene — 890 Folsom and the Church of the Secret Gospel — is drawing hundreds of gay men to the area on weekend nights.

Michael Valerio, president of the South of Market Merchants and Individual Lifestyle Events, producers of the popular Folsom Street Fair, also sees where the Lone Star is reopening as a kind of microcosm of the roots of the growing wave of anti-gay violence in the neighborhood.

"This is a key problem," Valerio told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "Across the street from it, where the Ambush used to be, is going to be a straight restaurant. That's what causes our problems. As you go down Folsom, there's Julie's, there's Buster's, there's the Watering Hole, the Tap Room and Eddie Jack's. You keep going down the street and Pizza Parlor is opening up next to My Place. There's these gay leather bars stuck between all these other [straight] places, and it really is not a harmonious mix. For a while I was intimidated to even wear leather to walk from my house on Langton Street to the Watering Hole or My Place or the Power House."

Valerio was surprised to learn how severe the rising tide of anti-gay activities in the neighborhood had grown, but said the newer straight bars and clubs aren't in themselves the problem.

"There is a problem with

clients that they have no control over," he said.

Just below the surface of the conflict, some say, is a kind of resentful turf issue with gays in the right and the new-comer straights "the problem."

"Of course, the problem rarely if ever comes from gay people. Gay people mostly just mind their business and do their thing. You don't see gays beating up straights. There is some resentment because things have changed. I admit I feel it myself," Brinken said.

### Neighborhood Patrols?

Valerio suggested that perhaps the nighttime spots in the area should get together to collectively figure out ways to help reduce the street violence and friction in the neighborhood "to make the customers feel more secure — both straight and gay." He wondered whether CUAV might not be able to organize some sort of neighborhood patrols in the area.

But CUAV's Jill Tregor said the organization isn't geared toward that sort of ongoing activity.

"We don't particularly have the resources for it," Tregor said. "It would have to be basically a volunteer thing, and my experience working two years ago with a group called the Gay Guards that was trying to do precisely that — be a gay street patrol — is that they lasted exactly one night. My general impression is that it takes a huge commitment from people on a volunteer basis, and people's enthusiasm doesn't match their actual ability to commit."

Tregor also said she was concerned about street patrol groups that tried to function as police, sometimes carrying weapons and actively intervening in incidents.

Tregor said the precautions people going into the area should take are the same they should be taking universally when out at night: travel in groups if possible rather than alone; keep as much as possible to well-lit areas; and carry — and use when necessary — a whistle. ▼

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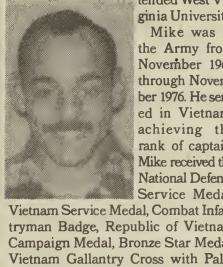
San Francisco AIDS Foundation (415) 863-AIDS



## DEATHS

### Michael C. Woodson

Nov. 28, 1947-July 25, 1990  
Born in West (by God) Virginia, Mike graduated from Charleston High and attended West Virginia University.



Mike was in the Army from November 1969 through November 1976. He served in Vietnam, achieving the rank of captain. Mike received the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm and the Army Commendation Medal.

Upon leaving the military, Mike moved to San Francisco. He was employed by California Leasing, Social Security, Tenant Services and as a claims examiner for the labor department.

Mike was intelligent, articulate, witty, loving and tenderhearted, with a strong sense of justice.

Mike was an avid sports fan. His favorite teams were the Lakers, 49ers, Cleveland Browns, Dodgers and WVU.

Mike is survived by his daughter, Nicole, of Seaside, Calif., his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Woodson of Charleston; and two brothers and two sisters. His family was very loving and supportive during his illness.

Mike is also survived by his friend and companion of eight years, George Hunter.

Mike had many friends. Special thanks to colleagues from the labor department. Special friends during his tenure in San Francisco were Richard, Tom, James, Gary, Rick and Mike.

### Hilary Martinelli

1951-1990

On Aug. 4, Hilary Martinelli, 38, died

at his family home in Watsonville, Calif., after a long struggle with AIDS complications.

He grew up and was educated in Watsonville. He moved to San Francisco in 1971 to enroll in the bachelor of fine arts program at the Academy of Art/University of San Francisco. He remained in the city to live and work for the next 17 years. While visiting his family in April 1988, he was hospitalized with pneumocystis carinii pneumonia and remained at his parents' home until his death.

He will be fondly remembered for his great interest in all the performing arts, his passion for Hollywood trivia, his great wit and humor, and his artistic talent.

Hilary is survived by his mother and father, Mary Ellen and Charles Martinelli of Watsonville; his sister, Ellen Martinelli of Reno; a sister-in-law and brother, Lois and Greg Martinelli, and a nephew, Max Martinelli, all of New York City.

His ashes have been scattered off the Golden Gate. There will be a gathering of friends and relatives for the celebration of his life at the family home at a time to be announced later.

spent his life being involved with educating and helping others in his profession of psychology professor.

Bill is survived by his brother Michael, sisters, Mary, Harette, Evelyn and Donna; Bay Area friends, Wally, Bob, Vergil, Brian and a host of others, including Donald of Los Angeles.

We will miss his "coy little smile" and remember him always.

Donations can be made in Bill's name to: City of Angeles Hospice, 1302 North Las Palmas, Los Angeles, CA 90028.

### Robert John Florence

March 4, 1947-Aug. 8, 1990

R.J. Florence died after a grueling bone-marrow transplant to cure non-AIDS lymphoma. His bravery in bearing so many medical nightmares amazed his health care team and made him

a hero to all who loved him. Born in Hammond, he attended Loyola of Chicago and Rome, Italy, and Indiana University in Bloomington.

Upon moving to San Francisco in 1972, he met Hal Offen, his lifemate, from whom, whether together or not as lovers, he would be inseparable until his death.

R.J. was a man of many talents. He was a brilliant writer, particularly of letters. The first section of his unfinished book appeared in *OUTLOOK*, illustrated by his collages. He was part of the satirical radio collective *World in Your Face*, both writing and performing their material. He did the sound track for Arthur Evans' play, *The God of Ecstasy*.

But his greatest success was in friendship. He was devoted to his many long-term friends and to them. He was charming, witty, irreverent, vulnerable and a delight to be with.

In 1983 his life changed for the better after joining NA and abandoning a marijuana habit. Many of his close friends, including his lover Tim Passadore, who predeceased him, date from that period.

In addition to Hal, he is survived by his first lover, Decker; his many friends, stepmother, Gen; stepsister, Ann; aunts, Betty and Pauline; Dr. Damon and the incredible nurses at UCSF; and brother, Richard, who gave his bone marrow so that R.J. might live. Rest in peace, my love.

A memorial service will be held Aug. 24, 7 p.m., at the First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin. Call 776-3442 for information.

### Bennie L. Battles

July 16, 1935-July 2, 1990

*I think you're kind of cute. Can I buy you a drink?* That line made for a love and friendship that would last 19 years. Bennie passed away unexpectedly at home of a heart attack.

He had been employed at St. Francis Hospital as an orthopedic technician.

He is survived by his lover, Ron Empey and his mother, Ila "Shorty" Cagle, and a half-sister, Eva Lucy, both of Sherman, Texas; also several nieces and nephews. He will be remembered by all.

Bennie was cremated in keeping with his wishes. At his request, no memorial service or gathering of friends will be held.

We love you and miss you.

—Ron, Samuel P. Jones and Little One.

### Stanley "Stan" Robert Saunders

March 6, 1955-July 25, 1990

A dear friend and loving person has

gone from us in the loving care of the Coming Home Hospice. Born in Pennsylvania, Stan came to California some 10 years ago. Stan is survived by his mother, Dorothy Saunders, of Titusville, PA, his sister Penny Meelen of Clearwater, PA, three nephews and many friends. A memorial service will be held August 19 at 2 p.m. at St. Luke's Church on Van Ness Ave. at Clay.

mischievous sense of humor and his boyish charm, Richard touched and enriched the lives of all who knew him. Thank you, Richard.

### Etienne D. Hafs

Nov. 19, 1954-July 17, 1990

Etienne D. Hafs, graduate of San Francisco State University and long-time resident of the city, passed quietly away on the morning of July 17 at San Francisco General Hospital, following a three-year bout with AIDS.

He was the rarest of all kinds of men, capable of total seriousness and dedication, yet possessed of the spirit of a child in his ability to play. By his very example, he showed that it was and is possible to find joy and love in the midst of the epidemic, that it's not how you die, but how you live that makes the difference.

His legacy includes the PWA Switchboard, which he found as an idea and left as an organized and working operation; numerous articles in *BETA*; activities in *BWMT*; and most important of all, the lives he touched and forever changed. He is survived by his lover, Edgar; his parents, Harold and Carol; brother, Mark; sister, Leslie; and a great many friends. *Au revoir, my love; you will be sorely missed.*

### Ron Vlk

Sept. 7, 1948-May 8, 1990

After graduating from West Point in 1971, where he held several swimming records, Ron moved to San Francisco via Los Angeles. Ron brightened the disco scene with his endless energy and amused his friends with his corny jokes.

In 1985 Ron moved to Palm Springs, where he stayed in the shade and made frequent phone calls to his friends in San Francisco.

After a short battle with AIDS, Ron died peacefully in his sleep. He is survived by his loving and supportive sister, Suzie, and his many friends up and down the coast.

Ron's parting words were: "I'm falling off Montgomery Cliff and drowning in Veronica Lake."

### Tom Wesner

Born in Wisconsin on Aug. 1, 1946. Died of AIDS at home in San Francisco on Aug. 3, 1990.

Mike went peacefully into the light the morning of July 7 after living with AIDS for over two years.

Mike is survived by his loving parents, Warren and Margaret; his sisters, Jane, Ellen and Susan; brothers, Dennis, Pat and Russell; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends, who all made Mike's final months a joyful, precious time.

Mike was known for his spirit, his outgoing style and love for life, and shared this with his friends. Mike called New York, New Orleans and San Francisco home and contributed much time and energy to these cities' gay communities through softball and bowling leagues, and was an active part of the Gay World Series and Gay Games.

In each of these cities, Mike made lifelong friendships that will be dear to all of us. We will miss this warm, caring man — his smile, laugh and sense of humor — and are thankful he shared his life with us.

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### PROJECT INFORM

#### HIV Town Meetings

First & Last Wednesdays

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## DEATHS

### Health Calendar

#### FRIDAY

**AIDS Satellite Television Network:** Aug. 17 programs, 'Kaposi's Sarcoma' and 'AIDS-Related Lymphoma,' may be viewed at Pacific Presbyterian Medical Center. 923-3440.

**AIDS and ARC Switchboard:** For information and support, the switchboard is operated by people with AIDS. Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 861-7309.

**Young Gay Men's Rap Group:** For those 23 and under. This is a non-therapy group conceived and conducted by gay & bisexual young men. 7-9 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

**Living Well With AIDS/ARC:** Support group based on Attitudinal Healing Principles. 1-3 p.m. & 7-9 p.m. Rest Stop, 134 Church, SF. 621-REST.

#### SATURDAY

**MCC's HIV+/ARC/AIDS Potluck:** Join us for this once-a-month event. Aug. 18 at 7:30 p.m. at 81 Landers, Apt. 7, SF. Call 863-4434.

**Women's AIDS Hotline:** Call Saturdays, 9 a.m.-12 noon. Saturday support group, 12-1 p.m. Diablo Valley AIDS Center. Call 686-DVAC.

**Women's Clinic:** Call at 8:30 a.m. for same day appointment. Pap smears, STDs, bladder & pregnancy testing, and other services. Health care by and for women. Berkeley Free Clinic, 548-2570.

#### SUNDAY

**Afternoon Tea:** Come play board games and socialize. 2-7 p.m. For PWA/PWARC/PWHIVs. Free. Rest Stop, 134 Church, SF. 621-REST.

**Men's Clinic:** STDs, scabies, NGUs, lice, venereal warts, etc., testing and treatment. AIDS/ARC counseling and referrals. Free and confidential. 6-8 p.m. Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 644-0425.

#### MONDAY

**Self Healing Workshop:** For HIV+/PWARC/PWAs, caregivers, friends & lovers. Focus on meditative & stress management techniques. Mondays, 7-9 p.m., at Davies Medical Center's Gazebo Room. Call Erik Wheaton at AIDS Health Project, 476-3990.

**Women's Health Group:** Support and discussion group for physical, mental and emotional issues of women's health. Also meets Thursdays, 7:30-9 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

**Gay & Lesbian Grief Support Group:** Focus is on losses incurred within the last 3-12 months. Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m. Vespa Center, 311 MacArthur Blvd, San Leandro. Call Nancee, 632-4390.

**Bay Area Youth Positives (BAY+):** Support group for adolescents and young adults dealing with HIV, AIDS & ARC. 6:30 p.m. ACCEPT, 1287 11th Ave., SF. Call Julie, 681-2500, or Scott, 821-8764.

**AIDS Family Project:** Ongoing group for teens (ages 14-18) who have HIV+ family members. Stacey Shuster, PhD, 626-7000.

#### TUESDAY

**Spirituality & AIDS in the Tenderloin:** Rev. Penny Sarvis on carrying on & not burning out. Aug. 14 at 7:30 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

**Moving Toward Life—A Cancer Self Help Program:** Heal by learning to pay attention to your body. Led by Anna Halprin, Ph.D., and staff. Tuesdays, Aug. 21-Sept. 25. \$60-150, scholarships available. Tamalpa Institute, Marin. Call 461-9479.

**Quan Yin Healing Arts Center:** Offers the following services: HIV Clinic; Herbal Treatment Program; Wellness Program; SF AIDS Alternative Healing Project; and Fertility Program. Call 861-4964, Tue.-Fri., 12-6 p.m.

**Asian Gay Men's Support Group:** 6:30-8 p.m. The Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 548-8283.

**Lesbian Psychotherapy Group:** 5:30-7 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF. Call 626-7000 for appointment.

#### WEDNESDAY

**'The Truth About Morals':** Spiritual meditation lecture/workshop by Jim Gilman. Suggested donation \$10. 135 Beulah (two blocks above Haight between Shrader & Stanyan), SF. Call Jim, 386-6753.

**Candlelight Service:** A service in the style of the Taizé community. Aug. 29 at 7:30 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF.

**Open Support Group for Women with HIV:** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Supervised childcare provided. The Women's Bldg, 1843 18th St., SF. Call 921-3680.

#### THURSDAY

**African-American HIV+/ARC/AIDS Support Group:** Gain independence and reduce isolation and make better use of AIDS services. Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. SF AIDS Foundation, 25 Van Ness, 3rd floor smoking lounge, SF. 864-4376.

**Insurance/Employee Benefits Clinic:** Thursdays at 6:15, 7 & 7:45 p.m. Free 45-min. private session with an attorney on benefits, COBRA and insurance problems. AIDS Legal Referral Panel, 25 Hickory/Van Ness, SF. 864-8186.

**ARC Drop-In For PWAs:** Support, information and stress reduction. 6-8 p.m. Health Center 1, 3850 17th St./Noe, Rm. 201, SF. 626-7000.

**HIV+ Drop-In Group for Men and Women Testing Positive:** 6-8 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF. 626-7000.

**Ethyl Eichelberger**  
July 17, 1945-Aug. 12, 1990



Friends of Ethyl Eichelberger found the great performer and author dead in his Staten Island apartment on Aug. 12. He was 45.

Eichelberger, born James Roy, committed suicide by slashing his wrists.

Eichelberger's health had recently been failing, although he'd continued his usual schedule of commitments and performances. He was to have begun rehearsals this week for the Arena Theatre's production of *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*.

Last fall he played The Streetsinger in John Dexter's ill-fated *Threepenny Opera*. Eichelberger's own play, *Das Vedanya, Mama*, had premiered in July, shortly after his run at La Mama in his new solo vehicle, *Dilbert Dingaling*. The playwright left more than 30 of his own plays.

Reportedly, Eichelberger had been depressed over the critical reaction to his new work, was suffering a negative reaction to a medicine his doctors had prescribed when his body could no longer tolerate the AZT he'd been taking for two years, and was exhausted from the intense care he'd been providing a sick friend.

These elements conspired to undermine his usual radiant strength. A friend said that while his performances in recent months had been "phenomenal," offstage he was ill and unusually weak.

Eichelberger's death by his own hand is a shock, yet seemingly in keeping with his all-or-nothing character. Minnie the Maid's given herself an infinitely vast territory to tidy up. ▼

### Brandt

(Continued from page 11)

"Sure, I mean there's that question."

What question? What question? But the conversation veers abruptly onto the subject of competition between women in music.

Oh, well, at least they don't talk about their "boyfriends." There may be life in the old Ms. yet. ▼

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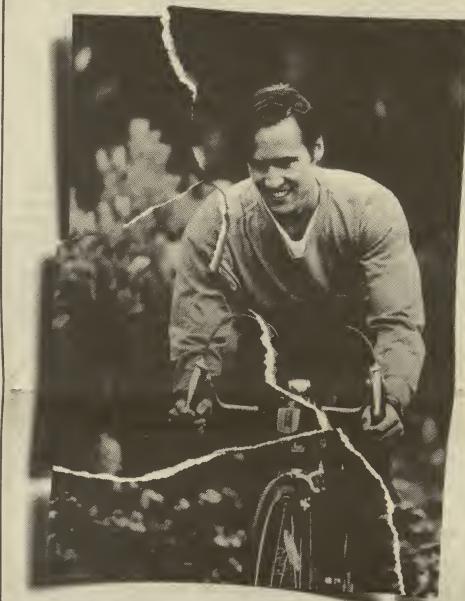
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# Church

(Continued from page 3)

up a beer pitcher and said to the other officers, 'I've got the evidence.'

According to San Francisco Police Department spokesman Dave Ambrose, officers found the facility had no permit to operate, and after a discussion Finch voluntarily closed the premises.

Ambrose said it was not clear how long the Tehama site would remain closed. However, Finch said he would reopen this Friday night.

The church is in full compliance with all city and state alcohol regulations, fire codes and building codes, Finch told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Police did not order the building closed, nor did they issue any citations.

Finch said he asked his congregation to leave to pre-

vent any confrontation with police.

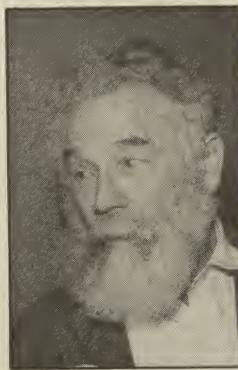
"They were waving their batons," he said.

Meanwhile, the church's other sanctuary remained open on Clementina Street.

Finch said he had recently decided to have both locations open to accommodate the large crowds attending the Friday and Saturday night services.

He said the facilities at Tehama Street were recently inspected by fire department officials and found in compliance with fire codes. Smoking is prohibited on the second floor to prevent the risk of fire. A rear fire exit and patio were recently installed, and a large garage door at the front of the building provide for quick exit in case of fire.

The Church of the Secret Gospel has become quite popular in the past year, following accounts of the growing South of Market gay sex scene that appeared last year



Father Frank Finch

in the *Bay Area Reporter* and other publications.

At press time, Finch planned to contact Chief

Frank Jordan regarding the incident. He did not say whether he would file with the Office of Citizens Complaints.

890 Folsom, another South of Market location that features sex-related activities, operated by Buzz Bense, was the scene of a similar police action last summer when about a half dozen officers, led by Lt. Schrant, appeared at the door demanding to see fire and building permits. Police ordered the facility closed.

Fire officials returned later in the week and again ordered the building closed.

Bense and several people who were present during the raid filed complaints with the Office of Citizen Complaints. No action has been taken on the complaints more than one

year later.

"The report has not been finished," Bense said. "I've been told for the past six or seven months that it would be out next month. It's outrageous. I have a letter on my desk from the president of the Human Rights Commission asking Michael Langer what's going on."

Langer, director of the OCC, received the letter Aug. 13.

"I expect the case to be concluded within 30 days," Langer said. "My investigator informed me yesterday that there had been some difficulties with regards to non-cooperation."

The non-cooperation, Langer said, did not originate within the Police Department. ▼

## HIV Watch

(Continued from page 18)

"Uh, this drug is kind of ... expensive. Do you have your employer's number so I can ... check on this?" he asked.

I did, and gave it to him. He called, and I eavesdropped on the conversation.

"He started when? Covred since when? By? Could I have their number?" He dialed a second number, apparently my HMO, and clearly could not get an ironclad guarantee of coverage from them. He came around the counter and approached me with a shit-eating smile.

"I'm not sure that your insurer will pay for this, and we prefer not to, that is, we can't take the risk ... so much money, you understand ... if you'd like to pay for it yourself ..."

It was, as he'd pointed out, a pretty hefty sum and I didn't want to pay for it myself, and then wait however many months it would take for the HMO to reimburse me. I called the benefits person at work, who said I needed to call the HMO. I called the HMO, who said that, although I was legally covered,

I simply wasn't in their computer yet and that it would take a while. In the meantime I should pay for stuff myself and count on reimbursement.

### The Good Life?

Instead I just subsisted on my sizable AZT backlog for an extra month. Most HIVers who are also members of the "Alpha Zeta Tau" fraternity of AZT eaters have such a stash. Either you inherit death-bed bequests of excess pills, or accept them from a friend who has cut back his dosage — there's so much of the stuff floating around these days there isn't even a grey market in it anymore.

But a month into my insurance I switched from aerosolized pentamidine, General's treatment of choice for preventing pneumocystis pneumonia, to dapsone. This was one of the concrete benefits of insurance: now, instead of making a special trip to General for a distasteful procedure, I could just take a daily pill. But it also meant I could no longer delay finding a friendly pharmacy.

By this time I had a real insurance ID, but still no pharmacy card. Keck's again refused to give me the time of

day, but Walgreen's did reluctantly agree to fill the 'scrip.'

It all left me wondering if insurance isn't slightly overrated. No doubt not all county hospitals are going to offer state-of-the-art HIV treatment to the degree that General does. And it may also be the case that the gap between county coverage and private care is much less noticeable when it comes to preventive care, as opposed to acute care like hospitalizations.

On the other hand, I've heard pretty good things about General's Ward 5A, and concerns about AIDSphobia in non-specialized medical facilities. Most HMOs don't have specific "AIDS wards." Kaiser, the largest Bay Area HMO, does, but just announced plans to decentralize their AIDS care, despite the protests of their HIVer customers.

I suppose the private insurance system works, though it's pretty clear that it works better for the insurance companies than it does for the employers, customers or health-care providers. But, from my very limited experience as a consumer, it seems like it needs a lot of work to face up to HIV. ▼

## Friday

(Continued from page 10)

derstandably, wants to get it "all behind him." The failure, however, of the jury (composed of 10 blacks and 2 whites) made something of a prophet of Barry, who boasted from the beginning that no jury in heavily black Washington (it only takes one to hang 'em) would ever send him to jail.

Neither side really won in the Barry matter, however, — the U.S. Attorney's Office clearly got caught in what was certainly a political setup, and Barry was revealed for what he really is: a truly corrupt human being, a street thug who lucked out in "beating the rap."

### Politics and People

Dennis Collins, one of those who helped Arlo Smith win the nomination for attorney general, will manage Supervisor Bill Maher's re-election effort.

You can count me among those who would almost bet that New York Gov. Mario Cuomo will be the Democrat's nominee against George Bush in '92.

Under a plan passed by the Laguna Beach City Council, unmarried domestic partners, including gays, of city

employees will be eligible for spousal medical, dental benefits; a couple must have lived together at least 6 months and be unrelated by blood.

The old Hibernia Bank at corner of Jones and Market to become the new Central police station?

And some of the people who are supposed to know these things keep telling me that Police Chief Frank Jordan really is listening to the people urging him run for mayor.

President Bush to be in San Francisco Sept. 12 to attend a Wilson-for-Governor fundraiser.

Barney's luck: Rep. Barney Frank, recently reprimanded by his House colleagues for his admitted relationship with a male hooker, doesn't appear to be in any real re-election trouble.

Frank's toughest Republican opponent recently withdrew from the race, and even the Republican mayor of Newton, Mass., Frank's home town, said last week that "Barney does a good job for his district; that's all we care about."

Secretary of State March Fong Eu, long one of the state's best vote-getters, is apparently in for a real re-election fight this year; Los Angeles Councilwoman Joan Flores is a good campaigner, is well-financed and political

observers say this one could be a horse race, with the Republican Flores having a real chance of an upset.

Attorney General nominee Arlo Smith picking up important support statewide from gay and lesbian groups and civil rights organizations in his race against conservative Dan Lungren.

Look for state Senate leaders to take away Quentin Kopp's committee assignments if, as expected, the "independent" Kopp endorses Wilson for governor.

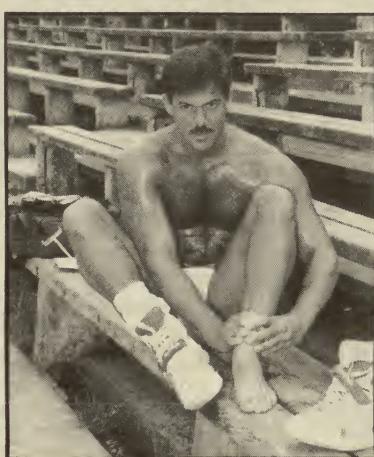
Julie Tang, slated to become a Municipal Court judge in January, is a fine lawyer who will be a good judge.

Yo, Pope! get this one: the American Psychological Association meeting in Boston this week reports that a study, involving interviews with 1,500 priests, shows that more than one-third of the Roman Catholic priests in the United States are sexually active.

The John Hopkins University study says 20 percent of the priests "have a clear pattern of heterosexual behavior, 10 percent to 13 percent are active homosexuals, and 6 percent are involved sexually with minors."

Catholic officials were very quick to denounce the study as being "not scientific" (and how was your week?). ▼

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# Bay Area Reporter

# Greater Bay News



An Oakland Police Officer wore two sets of gloves at the recent protest at Highland Hospital.  
(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

## East Bay Activists Question Highland AIDS Ward 'Victory'

by Dave Gilden

Alameda County Administrator Steve Szalay made a surprise announcement Aug. 7 that the county had found the funds to save Highland Hospital's Ward 5 West from closure. The 28-bed ward represents a quarter of the public hospital's acute care beds.

Among other functions, 5W serves as the AIDS specialty ward. The proposal to shut it down, part of an \$18 million public health cutback forced by a shrinkage in state medical appropriations, had evoked a vigorous outcry from the East Bay AIDS activist community.

Szalay's statement failed to placate public health activists, however.

Dorothy Graham of the Vote Health Coalition refused to claim victory, saying, "Yes, the ward isn't closing, but the county is not graciously putting money back into the hospital. The cuts now won't be as dramatic, but they'll be spread more over the whole facility."

Spokesman Joe Keffer of the Service Employees International Union fumed: "Highland Hospital will still be financially pinched and have to

cut services. With the deficit they'll be facing over there, it'll be disastrous."

To make up for the funds put back into Ward 5W, Highland proposes to slash \$900,000 from the monies set aside to pay temporary nurses. These nurses fill in the gaps caused by the hospital's chronic 15 percent nursing shortage.

The additional lack of nurses will close more beds in all units, instead of concentrating problems in one ward. Besides this cut, eight permanent positions are slated for elimination, saving \$463,000, and contract services will be trimmed by \$108,000.

Health department officials have also increased their estimates of next year's insurance and Medi-Cal revenues by \$2.4 million to justify preserving the ward.

"These figures are overly optimistic," Graham stated, "and are subject to re-examination. The ward closure could be back on the table if the plan doesn't work out."

Health care proponents are upset, too, about a new delay in renovating Highland's clinic wing. This was one of three projects postponed for a year by County Administrator

Steve Szalay in another bit of budgetary legerdemain to keep the North County Jail operating.

The clinic renovation was part of previous years' battles to fill deficiencies in the hospital's plant and equipment. "All those 'unmet needs' are going by the board this year," commented one observer. "We'll be lucky just to keep what we have."

Even as Ward 5W was pulled back from the brink, further cuts by the state legislature and governor in medically indigent adult and mental health funding gave Alameda County another \$10 million gap to make up.

Unless the county finds new sources of revenue for its health care system, the ward may soon find itself threatened in a new round of budgetary pruning.

But Diana Kuderna, a member of the county's AIDS Advisory Board, said, "Even if Ward 5 West does survive, primary care will still be devastated and Medi-Cal redefined to serve only emergencies. Health care in this country will be rolled back 30 or 40 years for the uninsured."

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critic of mental health and city government policy toward the homeless.

However, Beverly Hayon, public information director for the Health Department, insists that the program's closure is not in retaliation for the center's advocacy or activism on behalf of its clients.

"Our hearts are clearly with the Tenderloin Self Help Center and every other agency on the list of cuts," Hayon said.

However, she said that the city's health budget faces \$22 million in cuts and that the mental health budget faces the bulk of those cuts.

Hayon said that San Francisco has "reached the end of an era" regarding the kinds of mental health services that it can provide and that there may have to be a redefinition of the concept of public health based on funds available for services.

More than 50 percent of the staff providing services at the Tenderloin Self Help Center have either been homeless or mental health clients. ▼

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## Staffer

(Continued from page 17)

bosses.

The ultraconservative *Washington Times*, however, on Aug. 9 detailed a Byzantine behind-the-scenes battle over Wead's firing, charging that the evangelical Christian was asked to leave after he pointed the media toward the White House staffer he believed to be responsible for the gay invitations. The newspaper followed that charge by admittedly speculating who that official was.

Unnamed Bush staffers, the *Times* reported, retaliated against Wead by telling right-wing leaders who had been "blacklisted" from attending White House functions that Wead himself was responsible for their being barred from 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.

The White House switchboard, the newspaper added, was so flooded with calls protesting Wead's termination that it had to be shut down.

"This is a Washington story that is more murky than you can imagine," Greg King, communications director for the Human Rights Campaign Fund, said. "What is being

played out in the press right now are leaks. And it is like reading tea leaves, and it is not worth our time or energy."

"If newspaper reports are accurate, some of these people haven't got enough work to do," he added. "And it's clear that the only reason they have time for the Byzantine infighting that they've been engaged in, is because the president has been placing the hard work that needs to be done in more competent hands."

On Aug. 8, the White House announced that it had tapped Lee Anne Metzger, director of coalitions for the National Republican Congressional Committee and former legislative director to Phyllis Schlafly's Eagle Forum, to replace Wead.

While praising Bush for firing Wead, gay and lesbian rights groups are now viewing his replacement as an unknown quotient.

"I'm disappointed that a president that says he's going to be president for all the people feels he has to have a special person to deal with people on the far right," added King. "But if that's what he has to do to placate them while he ignores their agenda, then I'm not going to complain." ▼

## HIV STUDY

The HIV Center of Children's Hospital of San Francisco is seeking individuals with symptomatic HIV infection who do not have an AIDS diagnosis to complete our study of the safety of DHEA and its effects on the immune system. DHEA is a hormone present in the human body and secreted by the adrenal glands. Participants will take oral DHEA for 16 weeks and will be closely monitored by lab tests and physical exams. Further information may be obtained by calling the HIV Center at 750-6529.

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#### BASIC EXCLUSION CRITERIA:

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- Previous or current infection due to MAC disease

For more information contact: HIVCare Client Coordinator Drew Catapano at (415) 775-4321, ext. 2512. HIVCare is a program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde Street, San Francisco.



# No Seats Available for Gays On Contra Costa Rights Panel

by Keith Clark

Following on a string of recent setbacks for AIDS and gay and lesbian issues in the East Bay, the Contra Costa County Human Relations Commission has refused to recommend anyone openly gay or lesbian to fill one of the two seats open on the commission.

A record 15 people applied before the deadline last week for the two vacant seats on the 18-member commission, one of which became open earlier in July when controversial East Bay activist Ken Stanley abruptly resigned and withdrew from community politics following criticism from other gay and lesbian leaders in the community.

Normally the low-key civil rights panel draws little attention and few applicants to fill vacancies.

With intense, often raucous, opposition from conservatives and fundamentalists over AIDS and gay-rights issues in the county during the past few years, particularly in Concord, the refusal even to nominate the only openly gay applicant, Allan Shore, for one of the seats is being seen by many county rights activists as a serious slap in the face for the lesbian/gay community here.

In November 1989, Concord voters narrowly overturned an AIDS anti-discrimination ordinance that had already been approved by the City Council, making it the first and only municipality in the nation to repeal such an anti-bias law.

In the same election, voters also elected the leader of the AIDS ordinance repeal move, Lloyd Mashore, to a seat on the council.

In March, the new City Council voted to name four largely unknown members to the city's Human Relations Commission, effectively removing three incumbents, including the HRC's only openly gay member, the Rev. Larry Whitsell of the Metropolitan Community Church.

This week, after several months of community meetings to hammer out a new all-inclusive anti-discrimination ordinance, Concord Mayor Byron Campbell and Councilmember Lloyd Mashore both acknowledged that no proposal had yet been reached, making it impossible for an ordinance to come before the voters this November as had been hoped.

In an interview earlier this week, Campbell told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "I'm committed to seeing it (a new ordinance) happen and will do everything in my power to

make it happen. I think there's far more likelihood that it would happen than not."

Even so, most community leaders and activists in the East Bay increasingly see the failure to have even a proposed draft ready some nine months after last year's defeat at the polls as another setback to progress in the county.

Earlier this month the Concord HRC even rejected a seemingly innocuous proposal to declare a gay and lesbian history month in the city.

In the background are also two ongoing court battles of concern to gays and lesbians that seem to be creeping at a snail's pace through the legal system with uncertain results.

In a lawsuit contesting Mashore's residency at the time of last November's election, a Superior Court judge earlier this year ruled the fundamentalist minister was not a legal resident of Concord at the time and voided his election.

Mashore has been allowed to remain on the City Council while appealing the ruling, and the case has still not been resolved.

Attorney Michael Imfeld also filed a lawsuit on behalf of a conservative group, Citizens for Uniform Laws, that includes many of the same opponents of Concord's ordinance, challenging the county's AIDS anti-discrimination law as well.

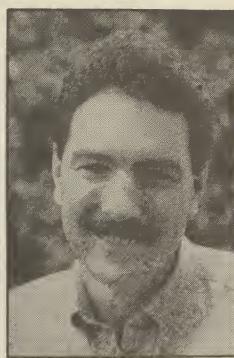
That suit has been repeatedly rejected in court, but is still in a prolonged appeals process.

This seemingly endless string of setbacks has left activists and rights advocates in the county feeling thwarted in every direction.

Allan Shore, the president of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, who was

unanimously recommended for one of the HRC posts by Contra Costa AGLO (Alliance for Gay/Lesbian Organizations), said he was concerned that the failure of the HRC to recommend anyone openly gay or lesbian to the commission could only be perceived in the community as another rejection of AIDS and gay and lesbian issues in the embattled county.

"They [the HRC] are trying to take an expediency to controversy by hiding the gay and lesbian community," Shore said. "I think there is clearly an element in the county that wishes the 'problem' to go away, and the way to do that is to not give the community concerns any credence even on the boards and commissions that are designed to deal with those kinds of issues. The easiest



Rob Birle

answer is to turn their back on what is controversial now by ignoring the gay and lesbian community."

Rob Birle, co-chair of Contra Costa AGLO, agreed with Shore and said, "Basically what it says to me is, right now, we're expendable; right now our concerns and our issues are not a pressing enough concern for them to have someone representing our community on the commission. I think that's unfortunate."

Birle raised questions about whether the 18-member commission is large enough. "If there isn't a place or room enough on the commission right now, based on this large number of applicants, for someone from the gay and lesbian community to be represented, then they definitely need more seats on the HRC."

Despite the suggestion to expand the HRC, which has been raised by other county activists and officials, no one in the supervisors' offices was willing to comment on the idea.

Before the HRC recommendations that did not include Shore, Kate Quisenberry, chair of the Contra Costa County Human Relations Commission, was herself critical of the apparent stalling of an anti-discrimination ordinance in Concord.

In an interview with the *B.A.R.*, Quisenberry rebuked Concord officials for not coming up with a proposal for a new ordinance, saying, "We all know why we need civil rights in this country - because the majority is inclined not to give them."

The HRC chairwoman's words, in light of the unwillingness of her commission even to put the name of the only openly gay person before the county supervisors, struck several East Bay activists as not just a little ironic. ▼

## Women's Equality Day Celebration

The Contra Costa Chapter of the National Organization for Women will celebrate the 70th anniversary of women getting the right to vote by hosting a picnic on Women's Equality Day, Sunday, Aug. 26, at Heather Farms Park, San Carlos & Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek.

Displays will be set up outlining information such as when California women had the right to vote, what the

feminist colors (gold, white and purple) represent, and how far we still have to go to achieve full equality.

Entertainment will include music, singing, dancing, speakers and martial arts demonstrations. Music will range from the Sweet Adelines to Christy G. to the Lesbian Snake Charmers. Exhibitors will include the Delta Quilters (from Antioch), Battered Women's Alternatives, and Feminists for

Animal Rights. Other groups joining CC NOW in this celebration of the great strides women have made in the past 70 years will include League of Women Voters, Contra Costa County Advisory Committee on the Employment & Economic Status of Women, and the YWCA.

For further information, please call Phyllis, 933-7320, or Barbara, 947-1551. ▼

# Concord Anti-Bias Measure Won't Be on November Ballot

by Keith Clark

After months of prolonged discussions, negotiations and meetings with community representatives in an attempt to hammer out a new anti-discrimination ordinance to place on the November ballot, Concord officials admitted last week that having a measure ready in time would not be "practical."

Fundamentalist Councilman Lloyd Mashore said meeting the Aug. 10 deadline for putting ballot measures before the voters this November "just did not seem practical."

Following months of meetings with community organizations spearheaded by Mayor or Byron Campbell to work out a new proposal to replace the AIDS anti-discrimination law narrowly repealed by voters last November, Mashore said, "Getting 98 percent agreement is pretty good, unless the remaining 2 percent are capable of torpedoing the whole plan."

But Campbell said an anti-discrimination ordinance for the embattled city was far from dead.

"I myself am still committed to trying to put this thing together ... and I plan to go full steam ahead as soon as we finish with the targeted meetings. But we don't need to put it on the ballot to make that an ordinance," Campbell told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "That's just one technique that we might use — might — use I always said — to get the community to buy into it. There's many ways to skin a cat, and that's only one way."

Campbell emphasized that the failure to meet the deadline to get a ballot proposal didn't mean anyone was giving up on an all-inclusive anti-discrimination ordinance, and said there was still a good deal more work to be done before the city might have a first draft proposal for consideration.

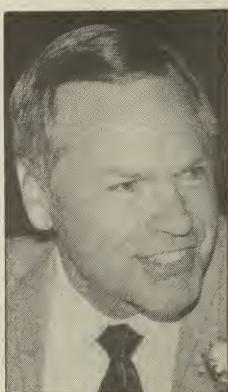
"The reality is that I can't put it on the ballot myself," Campbell said. "I need a majority of the council to do that. But the thing hasn't even been written. That's just the icing on the whole cake. Everybody's looking at the icing and nobody's even asking if there's a cake. There's no cake out there yet."

One major stumbling block that slowed down the targeted community meetings Campbell and Mashore have been holding on a new ordinance was a last-minute request by a city agency and a community group for added meetings.

Campbell said that although there were two representatives from the city's Human Relations Commission participating in the targeted meetings, the full commission recently asked to discuss the ordinance.

Another community organization, the Black Families Association, also recently asked to have a second meeting with the Campbell-Mashore group for additional input concerning any proposed new law.

Campbell said these additional meetings were being arranged and that he hoped to have all the community forums done this month.



Lloyd Mashore

"I had hoped to be further along than we are now," he said. "These requests for additional meetings have slowed us down."

Another potential stumbling block in the near future is that Concord has no city attorney. The city now hires a

private attorney on an hourly basis for crucial legal advice, but Campbell indicated he didn't think it would be appropriate for anyone but the city attorney to work on the legal wording of such a piece of legislation.

Gay rights leaders in the East Bay reacted with disappointment and frustration over the failure of the Campbell-Mashore attempt to come up with a proposal for a new ordinance, particularly because only a small group of fundamentalists is opposed to a new law.

Rob Birle, co-chair of the Contra Costa Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Organizations, said, "Basically the message that came out of the community forums was very clear that there's broad-ranged support for an inclusive anti-discrimination ordinance from various segments of the community and it's only one small segment — the fundamentalist Christian commun-

ity — which is dead-set opposed to any anti-discrimination ordinance."

"We're very disappointed in the current process in that 2 percent of the population is holding the rest of the citizens hostage," Birle said. "I think our patience is wearing very thin."

Kate Quisenberry, chair of the Contra Costa County Human Relations Commission, was equally outspoken about Concord's failure to come up with a new anti-bias proposal because so small a group objected.

Quisenberry said Mashore's logic that there couldn't be any ordinance because "2 percent" objected didn't jibe with her understanding of democracy in America.

"I'm sure he [Mashore] must find democracy terribly inconvenient. If you have a program or an ordinance and 2 percent of the people don't like it, then you can't have it — I don't read that in the Constitution and I sure don't read it as part of our whole representative government," Quisenberry said.

"They [the fundamentalists] do have the right to their own views," she said. "But in the end you don't give them so much power that they can

disrupt what the Constitution really requires, which is fair and equal treatment. I never thought that the question of equal rights, civil rights, was up for majority vote. We all know why we need civil rights in this country: because the majority is inclined not to give them."

Birle said AGLO had been working with other minority organization including the Mexican-American Political Alliance and the Black Families Association to try to reach some agreement on a united statement about a new anti-bias ordinance in the city.

Birle suggested it might require a broad-based coalition of minority organizations to put something together themselves because the City Council seemed unable to offer the voters a new ordinance.

Mark Zapalik, a representative of the Traditional Values Coalition in Concord, was pleased with the failure of Mashore and Campbell to deliver a new ordinance in time for November and said the city should probably just forget about the whole thing.

Zapalik and the TVC, along with Mashore, were the principal opponents of the AIDS anti-discrimination ordinance repealed in last November's election ▼

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## Western

(Continued from page 1)

Union has been suffering economically. They obviously felt some of the repercussions from folks who were boycotting their product as well as the public disdain," he said.

City Attorney Louise Renne entered the case with an amicus brief in February, as did the American Civil Liberties Union.

In April, Superior Court Judge Ira Brown issued a decision denying the motion by Western Union and ordered the company to go to trial.

"It's a tremendous victory. It shows how effective we can be as a community when we unite on an issue," said Leonard Graff, a member of the city's Human Rights Com-

mission. "Western Union is to be congratulated for doing the right thing."

According to the statement by the D.C.-based HCRF, Western Union CEO Robert Amman stressed that Western Union did not condone "discrimination toward other employees on the basis of sexual orientation."

Amman also laid the blame for the attempt to have the ordinance declared unconstitutional as a decision made by its local counsel.

"When I became aware of this challenge, I directed our Law Department to instruct our local counsel to withdraw this challenge of the law and try the case on its merits. We have no interest in overturning civil rights ordinances," Amman was quoted as saying in the HCRF release.

Western Union was unavailable for comment. ▼

## Auditions for Performers, Specialty Acts

The Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts announces auditions for two of its upcoming productions, "Live From Las Vegas," a Vegas style show and gaming event at Bimbo's 365 Club, Nov. 9 and 10, and "Sets," a dance concert in a gym setting at the Victoria Theatre, Nov. 16, 17 and 18.

Audition dates for both productions are Saturday, Aug. 25, 12 noon - 2 p.m., for jazz, modern and tap intermediates (aerobic/gym types welcome); Sunday, Aug. 26, 1:30 p.m. - 4 p.m. (specialty/unusual variety acts); Tuesday, Aug. 28, 7 p.m.-10 p.m., (show type dancers/singers).

Multi-cultural performers are encouraged to attend. Performers are requested to be prompt and to wear attire appropriate to their art form. For further information or audition procedure, call Jim Sniadach at 621-5619. ▼

## NEZ PAS

### Will Wonders Ever Cease?



Nez in Hollywood.

#### Thaumaturge's Anomy! (An "It's The Big One!" Nose)

I won't even speculate as to just who may have "struck a Faustian bargain," but a wonder of wonders has occurred, don't you know! "Drag" is being allowed back into that place from which it was banned "forever more" not too many months ago!

Friday, Sept. 7, Ms. Steve St. John will host a function for ISE General Account Fund, with the emcees for the event being none other than Toby and Manuel. Included in the festive line up will be "dignitaries" from (in alphabetical order) Fresno, Modesto, San Jose and Stockton. You can bet the rent that some "stars" from Alameda County will be included in the program, too.

In the South Bay, *Outlook* will continue playing on the second and fourth Friday of each month at 5 p.m. on San Jose Cable 2B and at 7:30 p.m. on Cable 30 in Cupertino and Los Altos.

*Outlook* can also be seen every Thursday, 8:30 p.m., on Mountain View Cable 30, plus the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. on San Francisco Cable 6. ▼

Watch for fliers, and next month's ISE Newsletter, for the exact time of the function. The festivities will be held you-know-where at Madison and 12th St. in Oakland.

Happy Birthday Harry!  
(A "Candled" Nose)

ISE Prince Royale Harry Wilmoth celebrated his 37th with an evening of flowers, food and fun last Saturday, Aug. 11, at Town & Country. There was a free buffet, entertainment, flower arrangement auctions and lots of raffles. Proceeds were divided 50/50 between ISE General Account and ISE Travel Fund. Master of ceremonies for the event was Paul Breeding, Mr. Gay San Jose 1990, with a special guest appearance by Emperor Max of Monterey.

Included in this event, but not originally part of the program, was a re-raffling of the TV that was raffled to benefit Jimi D. Why, you may ask? Well, I'll tell you. The ticket was drawn at the Fairmont Picnic and the winner was none other than the mother of the person who donated it! The "donor" talked his mother into re-donating it. She did, and it was re-raffled at Harry's birthday party!

Pastiche  
(A Bits & Pieces Nose)

As of 8/7/90, a total of \$1,156 has been raised for Jimi D's trip and room & board in Atlanta.

Save the night of Aug. 17 because that's "Tramp's Night" at the Spoiled Brat. If you remember her previous "outings" at the Brat, you won't want to miss this one, which promises to be bigger

and better than any that have gone on before.

I don't know if the previous item has anything to do with anything, but Aug. 18 is listed as the "official ISE Night Off." You mean to tell me that everyone in ISE is going to stay home that night!?

ISE's Imperial Crown Prince James "my name is James not Jim" Bunting is planning a "slave auction" for Aug. 26. Watch for fliers with full details.

DJ's, in Walnut Creek is hosting its 5th annual Casino Night AIDS Benefit on Aug. 25. Advanced tickets must be purchased from them with a reminder that the last three years have been sold out! There are two grand prizes. Each prize is two round-trip tickets to either London, Hong Kong or Sydney, Australia. Now you know why this event has been sold out the last three years!

Speaking of casinos and Aug. 25, don't forget the Casino Night benefit for Highland Hospital AIDS Clinic at 12th and Madison, from 8 p.m. to midnight. For more information, call Jim at 261-6656.

Speaking of casinos, back up six days to Aug. 19. ISE/In-Memory (splitting the proceeds 50/50) will have another casino — and show! — at Big Mama's.

Business is blooming for David and Honey Hush. They are the proud owners of "Business Is Blooming" florists on High Street at Brookdale.

Remember the Fairmont Hospital AIDS Ward 5th Annual Barbeque [sic] numbered buttons? Well, look at yours closely. There are some prizes connected with some lucky numbers! A stereo will be awarded to No. 0629; dinner for two to No. 0420; and a stuffed animal each to numbers 0982 and 0413. Jim Hall already collected his weekend at a motel with his lucky No. 0260! Contact Mama Chuckles or Carlos to claim your prize.

By the by, speaking of the Fairmont Barbeque, Mama Chuckles informed me that a grand total of \$6,746.69 was raised that day and with previous button sales. Debits totaled \$1,701.90 — that means \$5,044.79 was donated to Fairmont AIDS Canteen Fund, in the name of "the People" of Alameda County! Way to go!

If you can't learn to do something well, at least learn to enjoy doing it badly! I can smile at that, as the countdown nears the end. ▼

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### 'Shop Talk' for Black Filmmakers

Dwinelle Hall on the UC-Berkeley campus will host Shop Talk, a workshop sponsored by the Black Filmmakers Hall of Fame, Inc., Aug. 22-24. The workshop provides a forum in which to network, exchange ideas, collect information and critique the work of the 30 participants who will be invited to attend.

Black independent filmmakers with works in progress or completed within the past three years are encouraged to apply and should call the BFHFI office at (415) 465-0804 for an application to register.

The Aug. 22 opening night panel, which takes a serious look at who decides issues, features Mabel J. Hannock, executive director of the National Black Programming Consortium, Inc.; well-known Bay Area director Marlon Riggs, whose works include *Ethnic Notions* and *Tongues Untied*; Ashley James, founder of Searchlight Films; and Evelyn Crawford, director of the Bay Area Multicultural Arts Initiative. ▼

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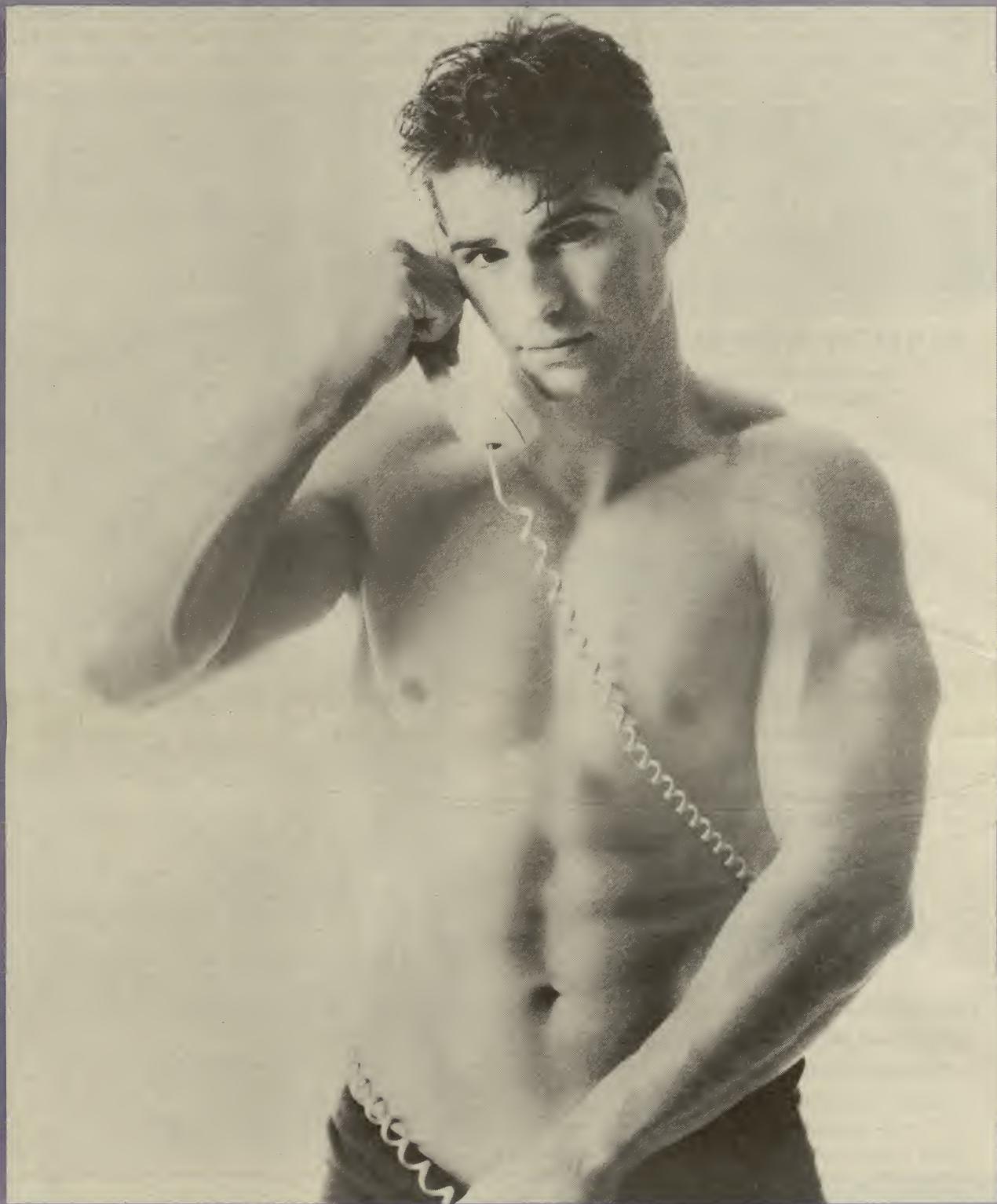


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Bay Area Reporter  
Arts & Entertainment

# Still Nancy After All These Years

by Arthur Dorey

**S**he's the star of stage, screen and astrology conventions. He's the star of stage, the tube and now bathroom reading. But oh, my! They're the same person. Yes, believe it or not, Nancy Reagan is Terry Sweeney. Or maybe it's the other way around. Who can tell?

Wowing New York audiences off-Broadway in his "one-woman" show, Terry Sweeney is again dishing out the dirt — and vile dirt it is — as everyone's favorite First Lady.

But not satisfied with merely milking out a few dollars by impersonating the Dragon Lady, he's also written the shameless *It's Still My Turn: A Satirical Collection of Nancy Reagan-esque Poetry* (And Books; \$6.95). Not since since Jonathan Swift has social satire been honed so sharply.

Sweeney, as you might remember, was a fixture on *Saturday Night Live* a few seasons back. (He played Nancy to the real Ron Reagan, Jr.) He then went on to write the film *Shag* with his lover and writer-in-his-own-write, Bill Lovejoy. Film parts were being offered to Terry in the following years, but they were mostly stereotypical gay parts without any saving graces. Holding his head up high, Terry waited for the right role to emerge again. When it didn't, he wrote it along with the new book of verse. The following is just a taste:

*I can't tell you the shock  
that I felt on the day  
when I found out Rock Hudson  
was actually gay.*

*For suddenly my whole world  
was turned upside down.  
How many more of them  
were there around?*

(Continued on page 36)



Terry Sweeney as Nancy Reagan: Selling books and wowing audiences.  
(Photo: Gene Bagnato)

# Pushing the Limits in a 'Brave New Whirl'

by Wendell Ricketts

**A**s long as there has been art, there have been artists determined to challenge the limits of the media in which they work. It was that spirit of defiance that guided the Impressionists, to name one famous example, whose movement broke for good the laws of color, composition, and even technique that had ruled European painting.

The German abstractionist Kurt Schwitters also revolted against convention in the 1920s when he began to combine collage, sculpture and "found objects" of every conceivable material into beautiful and previously unimaginable examples of *Gesamtkunstwerk* — a new aesthetic based in the total or "synthesized" work of art.

Nearer to our own time, the task of expanding the boundaries of art has been taken up by men and women as diverse as Meredith Monk, Christo, Merce Cunningham, Virginia Woolf, Julian Beck and many others — individuals who have continually pushed us to ask, What is a novel,



Arnold Iger, left, and Paul Kwan have been creating multimedia works for seven years. Their newest work is *Brave New Whirl*, which Kwan calls "a contemporary fable."

(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

What is a piece of sculpture, What should a play or a painting or a dance look like?

In San Francisco, perform-

ing and visual artists Arnold Iger and Paul Kwan have committed themselves to just those sorts of questions.

Kwan and Iger, who have spent the last 10 years making art and refusing labels, met as students at the San Francisco

Art Institute in 1979.

Four years later, they formed Persona Grata Production Company and quickly became a fixture on the Bay Area performing arts scene. Genuinely cross-cultural and thoroughly grounded in the possibilities of multimedia, Kwan and Iger's theatre work consistently thrills and challenges its audiences.

## A Contemporary Fable

On August 22, Iger and Kwan return to the stage with *Brave New Whirl*, a retrospective and a continuation of Persona Grata's past work.

At base, Kwan says, *Brave New Whirl* is a fable of contemporary life. Overwhelmed by a flood of media, Americans are increasingly isolated, increasingly prevented from reaching (or even identifying) what it is we truly long for. He adds, "We've taken some of our best characters from the last seven years and created another narrative [with them] within this new story line."

But don't hold Iger and Kwan to any literal interpre-

(Continued on page 44)

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## 11 Offerings in Fall 1990 City College Gay/Lesbian Studies

by Patrick Hoctel

City College of San Francisco's Department of Lesbian and Gay Studies is offering 11 courses during the Fall 1990 semester, which begins the week of Aug. 20. Department chairman Jack Collins, who will be teaching his "Gay and Lesbian Literature Survey" on Wednesday evenings at the college's Everett Middle School site, says the department is offering several historic new courses this fall.

"The 'U.S. Gay/Lesbian Reform,' the 'Anthropology of Homosexualities' and the 'Gay Male Relationships' are really the first of their kind at this [the college] level," Collins says. "We've been encouraged by the response to the department from the community so far," he adds. "Over 300 students were enrolled in the spring courses — we had far fewer than we have this fall — and we expect to increase our enrollment considerably with these new offerings."

The department's most well-attended course, remains, says Collins, the gay and lesbian film class, for which there are three separate sections — Wednesday afternoons, 2:5 p.m., on the college's Phelan Ave. campus and Wednesday and Thursday evenings, both from 6:30-9:30 p.m., at Mission High School — scheduled this fall. Film 120D, "Homosexuality in Contemporary Film," is co-sponsored by Frameline.

The film class kicks off with Aug. 22 and 23 screenings of the Michael York/Angela Lansbury classic, *Something for Everyone*, in which York seduces a whole family. Other films to be screened in subsequent weeks include: Sidney Lumet's rendition of Mary McCarthy's *The Group*; the French film about a boy's summer camp, *The Best Way*; *A Woman Like Eve*, a Dutch film about a housewife who meets a liberated lesbian; the made-for-TV movie, *Sergeant Matlovich vs. the U.S. Air Force*; Lina Wertmuller's *Sotto, Sotto*, about two best friends, women, who are attracted to each other;



Michael York, left, stars in *Something for Everyone*, the first film of the fall semester in City College's lesbian and gay film class.

Richard Fung's *Chinese Characters*; and Marlon Riggs' *Affirmations*.

The documentaries *Pink Triangles* and *Before Stonewall* will also be shown, along with the "groundbreaking" gay film of the early 1980s, *Making Love*, and *Cherchez La Femme*, a look at the depiction of lesbians in film and on television. Guest speakers include Mike Hippler, biographer of Leonard Matlovich, and video/performance artist Cecilia Dougherty.

"Students will find a wide range of topics among our classes this fall," Collins concludes. "There are classes in relationships for lesbians as well as gay men, a course called 'Maintaining Sexual Well-Being,' a course in international lesbian and gay literature taught by Margaret

Cruikshank, a labor studies class that looks at workplace issues for gay people, a psychology class, 'Human Relations,' that addresses interpersonal concerns, and a very wonderful course, 'Life and Death in Society,' that focuses on dealing with death — specifically from AIDS."

The Department of Lesbian and Gay Studies classes — with the exception of "Gay and Lesbian Workplace Issues" and "U.S. Gay/Lesbian Reform," which begin mid-September (see below) — begin the week of August 20-24.

Students may register the first day of class on a first come, first served basis. For registration information, phone City College at 239-3430. For information about the Department of Gay and Lesbian Studies, call 239-3383.

### City College Gay and Lesbian Studies Department Fall 1990 Semester Course Offerings

Course	Title	Day	Time	Location *
ANTH 20	Anthro of Homosexualities	T	6:30-9:30 p.m.	Mission HS
ENGL 55	Gay/Lesbian Literature Survey	W	6:30-9:30 p.m.	CEV
ENGL 56A	Gay/Lesbian Lit — International	Th	6:30-9:30 p.m.	CEV
FILM 120D	Homosex./Contemp. Film (001)	W	2:00-5:00 p.m.	VART-114
HIST 47D	Homosex./Contemp. Film (531)	W	6:30-9:30 p.m.	Mission HS
	Homosex./Contemp. Film (532)	Th	6:30-9:30 p.m.	Mission HS
	US Gay/Lesbian Reform 1945-**	T	6:30-9:30 p.m.	Mission HS
HLTH 20	** (HIST 47D begins on 9/18) **			
IDST 21	Maintaining Sexual Well Being	Th	11a.m.-12noon	ART-217
IDST 24	Issues/Lesb. Relationships (001)	Th	12:30-2 p.m.	Batmale HI
LABR 91D	Issues/Lesb. Relationships (531)	M	6:30-9:30 p.m.	Mission HS
PSYC 26	Gay Male Relationships	Th	6:30-9:30 p.m.	Mission HS
SOC 28	Gay/Lesb. Workplace Issues	M	6:30-9:30 p.m.	Mission HS
	** (LABR 91D begins on 9/17)			
	Human Relations	M	6:30-9:30 p.m.	Mission HS
	Life and Death in Society	W	6:30-9:30 p.m.	Mission HS

\*Locations

Mission High School: 3750 18th St. (at Dolores)  
CEV (Everett Middle Sch.): 450 Church St.  
Batmale Hall: Room 349, CCSF, 50 Phelan Ave.

VART: Vis. Arts Bldg., CCSF  
ART: Arts Building, CCSF

Classes begin the week of Aug. 20-24, except for HIST 47D and LABR 91D



Lyspinka: "I went to New York to be Michael Crawford in *Hello, Dolly*, but realized pretty quickly that Broadway wasn't doing that anymore." (Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

## Committed to Lyspinka

by John F. Karr

Perhaps it was the delirium of Lyspinka's San Francisco debut, but the morning after was as devastating for some as the preceding evening had been transcendent. Perhaps overly dazzled by the whirling lights and confused by the evanescent fogs in which the dancers at Club Colossus lose themselves in rhythm and time, Boy One woke up perturbed.

"What's wrong?" asked Boy Two.

"I've never slept with anyone more than once," Boy One admitted. "So?" asked Boy Two.

"But we've slept together three times."

"So?"  
"So I'm worried. I'm thinking about commitment."  
"Commitment!" yelped

Boy Two, a more experienced hand at these things, "Just enjoy it while you can!"

We weren't at all worried over our commitment to Lyspinka; it's unsullied by a shared bed yet consummated in *extremis*; even briefer than a one-night stand, Lyspinka's half-hour set at Colossus was all it took to insure a lifetime's unyielding idolatry. We enjoyed her while we could, along with the other 750 initiates who were stunned by the diva's sassy tapes and star charisma.

Lyspinka redefines being *On*. Her performance has major Snap. Her act is the apotheosis of Las Vegas—she stripped from glamour evening gown to showgirl's scanties and sang a succession of finales, undaunted by source material that ranged from female belter to the Four Tops—allowing the star

to sing lead and backup vocals nearly simultaneously. Delirious.

Since Lyspinka doesn't exist offstage, we talked at a party the next evening to her alter ego, the gracious red-head John Epperson. This native of Jackson, Mississippi, told us, "I went to New York to be Michael Crawford in *Hello, Dolly*, but realized pretty quickly that Broadway wasn't doing that anymore."

But he discovered the East Village club scene, and soon created the act which is the epitome of lipsyncing. His local debut was but a teaser for his full-length show, in which he proves the art of his craft by complementing his glamour and high wit with narrative. Imagine—lipsync with a story line! He'll be back with that show, and the thought of it gives us reason to live. ▼

## GAY GAMES

### Special Moments in Vancouver

by Mary Richards

The moment that seemed to many people to exemplify the spirit of Gay Games III and the Cultural Festival came late one afternoon toward the week's end in the Plaza of Nations, behind BC Place Stadium.

In an outdoor theatre on the waterfront overlooked by flags of all nations, the Celebration '90 Festival Chorus was performing. Singers from throughout the world had been practicing four hours each day to achieve their extraordinary presentation under the direction of conductor Carol White.

Suddenly, above the plaza, the light in the sunset sky changed, and the soft splendor of a double rainbow appeared. What people had traveled so far to find seemed to be distilled into those few moments of the song and the sight and spirit.

This experience was one of the grand highlights in a week packed with fun and energy, as multi-talented athletes and artists, competed, many achieving personal bests.

Below are some comments from athletes and attendees at Gay Games III:

**Tina Savory, 29, San Francisco, Marathoner:**

"It's so hot here. I'm not used to this kind of weather. The crowd is great—there are peo-



South African Simon Nkoli (left) and a new friend from Berkeley at Gay Games III. (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

ple here from all over the world. We're from everywhere, and I'm part of it and I'm proud of it."

**Garet Stark, 36, San Francisco, Runner:**

"It was great [winning a gold medal, along with his teammates in the San Francisco Track and Field Club, in the relay race]. I felt very honored to be picked up as the 4th person on the team. I was really thrilled just to be a part of the group. It felt wonderful to have the support from all my friends in the stands.

"I was kind of dehydrated, I wasn't used to the heat. I collapsed and they took me away in the ambulance [in a previous race]. What one will do for attention!"

**Simon Nkoli, South Africa, Activist**

"This is my first Gay Games and I'm quite excited about it. I've met a lot of people here and made new friends. I just hope that all the people I've met will be able to have a network of communication with each other and know what we

(Continued on page 43)

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## Scatological Shock

by John F. Karr

**H**igh-class scatology — that's what I overheard one man call *East*, the brilliantly smutty, poetically improper drama now in a stunning production at the On Broadway Theatre. It's the sort of thing that would give Jesse Helms a real run for his morality; it makes the adolescent vulgarity of 2Live Crew pale; here's the real thing.

Yet would Jesse understand it? Probably not. The odes to cunt, the paens to prick and the enactments of hump that take place in *East* are written with sense and sensibility; they have the scansion of Shakespeare, as well his extravagant rhetoric. Heck, this stuff is poetry, and the dazzle of its language, mated to the earthiness of its interests, makes a fascinatingly rich evening.

### Bittersweet Lives

It is also unusually potent theatre; imagine the characters of *American Buffalo* spouting Shakespearean sentiments. The setting is a working-class neighborhood of London; the characters a labore and his family.

The son is a potential hoodlum who becomes best mates with his opponent. After trying to kill each other in a rumble over possession of a girl, they become bosom buddies. If their relationship were any tighter, it would definitely be homosexual.

Their girl is abused and seemingly desirous of more; the mother is drained by poverty, work and the sexual demands of her slovenly husband. They all dream of better lives, and it is this romantic streak which makes the bitter, brutal depiction of their lives so bittersweet and beautiful.

It also makes acceptable the romanticizing of their lives. This presents a potential problem for the verse they speak, which is, after all, patently unreal, elevating the characters, ennobling them with sentiments they could never actually think, much less speak.

The vignettes that make up the 100-minute one-act play are played out against a chain link fence, a suitable background for these lives endured in steely coldness. Under the strong direction of Paul Hellyer, the characters slither among the fence's coils, climb its reaches, and dance among its jagged edges. In solo, duet and ensemble sections, they regale us with details of their daily travails, their dreams of escape and the unfolding of their desires, which are decidedly carnal in nature.

### Man Into Motorcycle

Delia MacDougall, as the girlfriend, is *West Side Story*'s Anita transferred to London, frying in her sexuality. Dennis Matthews and Joel Mullenix are the two macho

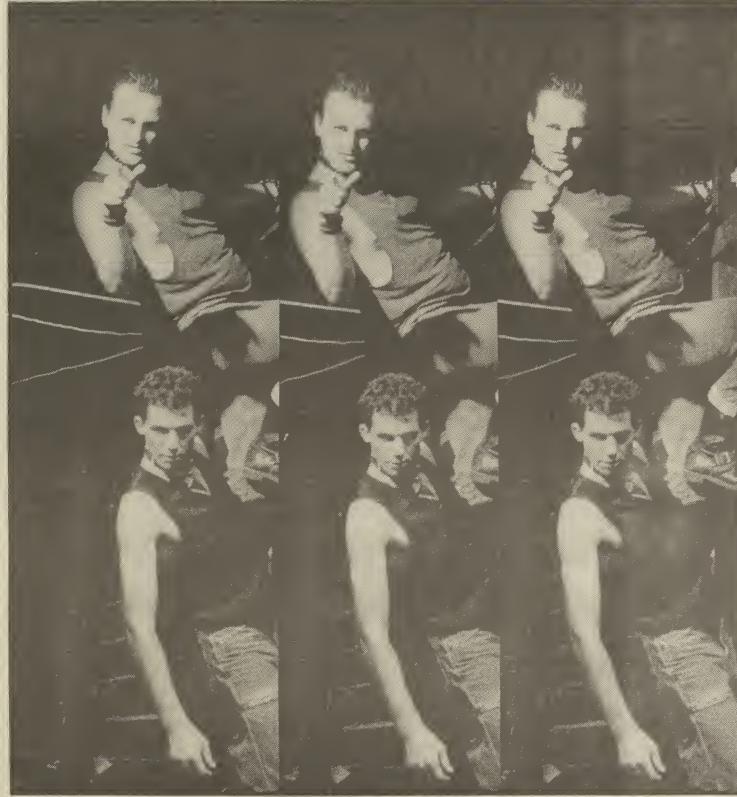
buddies. Mullenix, lean and tightly muscled, impresses in his scary dream tale of busting out of his dull job in a menswear shop; he encodes by doing a surprising stint as a motorcycle. Yes, and he's "ridden" by the major hulk

Matthews.

Matthews has a tour de force or two himself, in a five-minute salute to his prick and in a passionate bout with his girl. Stephanie Hunt arouses sympathy as the slatternly mother; her tale of be-

ing fondled in the safety of the movie theatre's darkness is frightening. Paul Finocchiaro effectively completes the ensemble as the Dad, and also plays piano and saxophone for the music hall

(Continued on page 60)



Tour de forces galore for Dennis Matthews, top, and Joel Mullenix in *East*.

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## And Miles to Go Before I Sleep

by John F. Karr

**W**hen *Promises, Promises* was new in 1969, I thought it a meretricious, venal show. And while talented director Rick Simas and his sharp choreographer Rene Pulliam have created in their current Chabot College revival as jaunty a production of the show as one could envision, no amount of strut and prance, no camouflage of riotous '60s costuming and no amount of talented performers can lift the material from its slag heap.

*Promises, Promises* is based on the 1959 film, *The Apartment*, but retains none of the movie's black-and-white, bittersweet look at life's ironic obstacles. Instead, afraid of being a musical play, it firmly toes the musical comedy line.

### Inexcusable Schism

Sure, the 1968 opening of *Promises* predicated the era of concept musicals, but there is an inexcusable schism in its match of subject with treatment. Every time a real emotion, a human feeling or bittersweet reality shows up, it is countered and dismissed in the next line by a Neil Simon gag.

Where the film gripped our emotions with its unyielding yet loving eye, *Promises* attempts its hold with a crotch grab. Its concern is leering; its humor smutty. Here's a show in which every businessman is an adulterer,



Jack Nockels, left, and Ted McCann, in *Promises, Promises*.

every low-echelon employee an opportunist and every woman an easy pickup. And they're all depicted with musical comedy glee. Aren't they fun!

Well, no. The one-dimensional script offers glibness instead of sincerity. The villain's comeuppance, and the leads' ultimate romance, as well as their dawning realization of the nature of their deeds, are afterthoughts.

Also, author Simon's try to disarm us by having his "hero" address us directly is too transparent a manipulation. Meanwhile, there is nei-

(Continued on page 44)

## THEATRE

Encore Does Howard Korder's 'Boys' Life'

# Three Blind Lice

Noreen C. Barnes

"Do you enjoy being a man?"

"It's OK. Do you enjoy being a woman?"

"Not really."

Now I know how George Bush got elected. *Boys' Life*, by Howard Korder, is a look at the activities of three straight white men in a generic American city. Most of their concerns center around what to do with their penises. Jack (Michael Scott Ryan) is a slick bully who baits his two friends, Don (Scott Freeman) and Phil (Andrew Dolan), with "What's next on our twisted parade of pleasure?" and delights in asking them if they can remember what happened in the 1970s.

Some of us recall things like Vietnam and Roe v. Wade, but this crowd can only come up with Watergate and the Sex Pistols — that says something right there. They take parallel journeys into the world of heterosexual sex (and occasionally what they think is love), and at times, they are both funny and sad in their attempts at humor or profundity (Jack can't really be reading Alan Watts' *The Book*).

Women are their foils, objects of their anger and confusion, who themselves possess little self-awareness, much less self-esteem, and are dealt out post-feminist platitudes by the playwright. There is one exception in Lauren Lane's faux runner, Maggie (who doesn't know what 10K means), exasperated with her current lover, and contemplative of an affair with the married Jack. Deborah Norton's Lisa is a waitress with sculpting aspirations, both tense and tentative with Don, and realistic enough to acknowledge their limitations. She and Freeman are the most convincing in the complexities of their characters' relationship.

There is deft direction by Bob Krakower, a technically excellent production (particularly the selection of music as commentary on the action) — and fine performances by Ryan, Freeman and Dolan, who respectively delineate their characters' arrogance, ambivalence and awkwardness.

### Nebbish Under Pressure

Phil, the nebbish under peer pressure, rapes an unconscious date (that term is, of course, not used for what he did), and his guilt about the incident is undercut by the horrifying amusement of the slimy Jack, who rivals Andrew Dice Clay in his contempt for women.

In another scene, the pained Phil, in a really wonderful performance by Dolan, virtually bares his soul; Jack blows bubbles in response.

Safe sex is not treated with any seriousness, either. Lisa is concerned that Don did not use a condom when he slept with another woman (he has an affair to see if he could get away with it, because "that is what a man would do") — it's pretty evident that they consider themselves exempt from such practices.

There is some attempt, at least by the director and actors, to be critical of these dangerous attitudes, but the potential for change for the characters is not really explored enough by the playwright to begin with. We see glimpses of realization on the part of the three men a moment here and there.

But despite the quality of the production, the question remains of why do this play in the first place — Korder lacks the powerful poetry of Mamet or the provocative symbolism of Shepard, nor does he provide any counter to the sexism and homophobia inherent in the play. The potential for criticism of this warped perspective is not explored — toleration of such prejudice is commonplace, where that of racism, natural-ly, is not.

### Potential Lost

Krakower says that the play tells the truth, and, unfortunately, he's quite right.

He and his actors have offered some commentary in this production, but not enough to encourage any real change, and it remains unclear as to what we are supposed to leave the theatre with, besides anger at the warped views of this group of *thirtysomething* types. The potential of the theatre to transform, to make us think differently about the world, is lost.

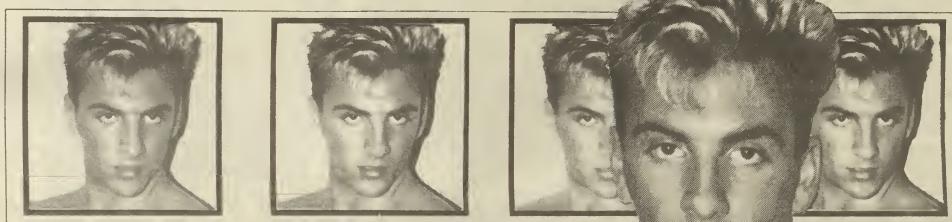
And there is tremendous talent in Encore, employed marvelously in seasons past in cutting-edge works that took, and largely succeeded in taking risks, both in form and content. This year the company seems to be doing a season (at least thus far) of story telling — without the political impact and substance which has heretofore been the wonderful thing about their work.

*Boys' Life*, while making some attempt at a kind of satire that should offer insight, is ultimately quite disturbing. It's the kind of commentary which only perpetuates, rather than really condemns, the straight white male theory and practice of asserting undeserved but acquired privilege. It is one that



(Left to right) Andrew Dolan, Michael Scott Ryan and Scott Freeman in Encore's production of Howard Korder's *Boys' Life*.

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'The Two Jakes' and 'Wild at Heart'

# The Intelligent and The Merely Nasty

by Warren Sonbert

**I**t must've been a very bad year at Cannes for David Lynch's *Wild at Heart* to have carted off the Golden Raspberry (or whatever they christen the top honors) by an apparent jury of insufferably smug morons — you know the kind ... people who have to let you realize that they get every in-joke by their superior tittering.

Nothing succeeds like excess, and *Wild at Heart*, like *Eraserhead* before it, is relentlessly and exclusively weird; weird for weirdness' sake. Lynch obviously fancies himself as the American Fellini (circa *Juliet of the Spirits*), with a nonstop parade of gargoyles and nary an anchor of normalcy in sight — as opposed to his superior *Blue Velvet*, which tempered its aberrant shenanigans with an alternative side of the coin. No such objectivity here.

Lynch, in interviews and throughout the film gives homage to and claims inspiration from *The Wizard of Oz*. But this is just one of *Wild at Heart*'s all too many unresolved red herrings. The real ripoffs are Jean-Luc Godard's *Weekend* (1968) and Orson Welles' *Touch of Evil* (1957), two influences — early Godard

and late Welles — that would not at first glance seem to be detrimental pedigrees.

From *Weekend* comes the pessimistic vision of an apocalyptic world of traffic accidents and roadside debris measuring Capitalism's corruptness. *Touch of Evil* provides stranger in a strange land motel and desert scapes, peopled by freaks and maniacs. Isabella Rossellini's cameo in the Lynch is a total parody of Marlene Dietrich in the Welles, and Dennis ("I'm the night man!") Weaver's roadhouse custodian has nonstop multiple reincarnations in *Wild at Heart*.

#### Profound or Just Mean?

Whereas the two earlier works were shaped, inflected, focused — *directed!* — Lynch's *Wild at Heart* is continually merely nasty. A lot of people are going to mistake mean-spiritedness for profundity, but here it's, well, just mean-spirited. Actually this kind of pandering to the trendy mob is the intellectual equivalent of *Total Recall* for the unwashed.

I do approve, however, of its treatment of women: All dozen of the various skirts who float through this film want to be constantly and viciously manhandled, fucked

Willem Dafoe, right, proposes a heist to Nicolas Cage in David Lynch's *Wild at Heart*.

and raped. We're all agreed on the validity of that. Wonder how many reviewers will dwell on this aspect of the work?

And I truly believed we could get through a modern Hollywood film without the obligatory "faggots" putdown — but I was wrong. Lynch is nothing if not wide ranging (though unoriginal) in his insults.

I'd sprinkle a few grains of plot if Lynch had managed to resolve any of the score of characters or situations he set in motion. But since he hasn't bothered to do his homework why should I do him the favor? And I hope none of my fellow critics embarrass themselves by citing Angelo Badalamenti (given sole musical credit) as the composer of

the ubiquitously used theme from Strauss' *Four Last Songs*. Now I wonder which filmmaker used Strauss before as an aural calling card?

#### Dern's Act

What's good about *Wild at Heart*? Laura Dern gives a great, no-holds-barred act as a southern belter run amok that has energy, style and wit. Although her partner, the slug Nicolas Cage, can barely muster an ineffectual Elvis accent to bolster up his end: He threatens throughout to sing "Love Me Tender" — yikes! — and wouldcha know it, that becomes the film's grand finale. Dern also has a car radio scene — every station littered with one more report of unspeakable American Confidential nightmare crime and carnage — that is both hilarious and right on.

In the midst of so much that is labored and obvious — Grace Zabriskie as a sexual Dr. Strangelove or Diane Ladd overacting in excruciating fashion as Dern's termagant mother (less Margaret Hamilton and more a Dragon Lady magenta-fingernailed Queen of the Night out of George Kuchar) — a handful of scenes manage to make their mark.

Willem Dafoe's slimy, crazed Richard Kiss of Death Widmark caricature seduces Dern in a golden shower of dirty chatter and makes one question the simplistic black/white, bad/good parameters characters seem to occupy. Sherilyn Fenn as a spun around dying car accident victim frantically searching for a comb is a moment of surprising poignancy.

But too much is just layered in consequence. The film is ultimately a flashy, flaccid smirk fest. Lynch has become the master of effect without cause. We're not talking classic cinema stances here like, let's say, *Strangers on a Train*. No one, film student or cineaste, will be studying *Wild at Heart* 20 years from now for kinetic wonders. This is a film for contemporary idiots who think they're terminally hip.

If you liked the sophomoric pettiness of *Heathers* or *The Emperor's New Clothes* lemming run to *Twin Peaks*, this current effort is for you. Otherwise *caveat emptor*.

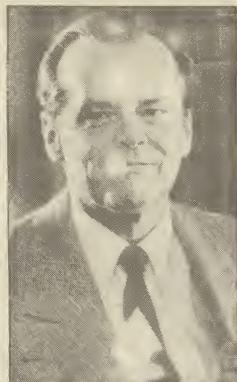
\* \* \*

An effective antidote to the above is *The Two Jakes*, directed by and starring Jack Nicholson. A bastion of sanctity, decorum and restraint after the Lynch, the new film is a sequel of sorts to 1974's

*Chinatown*. Eleven years later, detective Jake Gittes is again involved in marital infidelity, business corruption in Los Angeles and a glossy view of noirish mannerism.

Perverse me, I actually prefer this spin to the Polanski: late '40s art design nowadays seems less clichéd and abused. After Nicholson's arch preening in *Batman* and *The Shining*, it's a pleasure to report that he's a model of *le pose juste*. Gracious to his fellow actors, the accomplished Meg Tilly, Madeleine Stowe and Ruben Blades, he displays as well a not unimpressive visual sense.

While not a master of montage, Nicholson at least has a sense of where to put the camera and there are

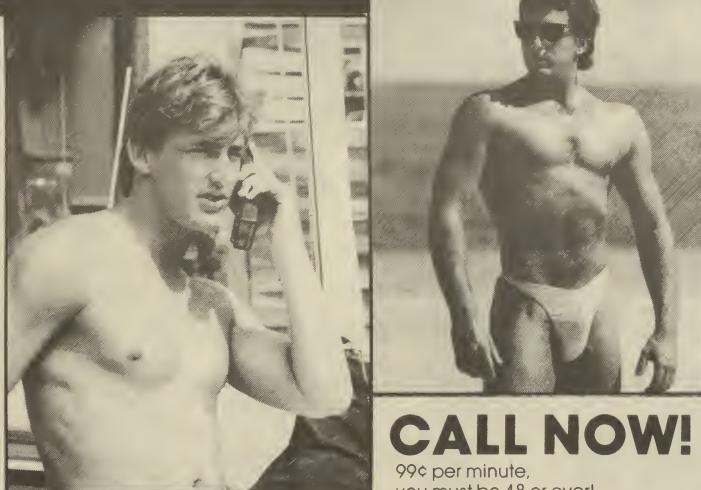
Jack Nicholson directed and stars in *The Two Jakes*.

some hilarious scenic coups — my favorite has the camera in a golfhole looking up (Hitchcock is turning over in his grave) as a ball rolls into the frame about to drop. There's nothing so pictorially witty in *Wild at Heart*.

The film is stunningly photographed by Vilmos Zsigmond and surely has the most literate dialogue of the year, by the estimable Robert Towne. An extended scene in a gay bar is both sympathetic to other-than-the-norm sexual orientation — much more politically correct than a comparable sequence in that recent, execrable *Coming Out* from East Germany — as well as being a probably accurate time-capsule portrait.

I agree with critics who have come to you before me that *The Two Jakes* is confused, generally haphazard and awkwardly developed, but if you can absorb its leisurely pace and sly irony, you will discover a rewarding and intelligent piece of American cinema. ▼

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# Bad Trip to a Parallel Universe

Alternate Casts  
by Marsh Cassady; Banned Books, \$8.95.

by James Tushinski

**F**asten your seat belts. This is going to be more of a tirade than a review. *Alternate Casts* is possibly the most dull, amateurish and implausible science fiction novel in many a year and reads like it was written by someone who watches too much television.

I know lesbian and gay science fiction and fantasy is a large and relatively untapped market and that small, commercially oriented publishers are scurrying to try and find books to cater to the demand, but let's hope this doesn't lead to more novels like this one.

First, there's the prose. Besides reading like it's been passed through a grammar-and-style-checking software program to remove any vestige of interest or originality, the language is so full of clichés and so ridiculous that it's hard to make it through two pages without cringing in embarrassment. In just the space of three paragraphs we're treated to such gems as "Like a man with no bones, Stoltz sank to the floor" and "Stoltz reeled like a run-down gyroscope."

The characters' backgrounds and psychological underpinnings are all too often handed to the reader in facile chunks. Author Marsh Cassady falls back time and again on that old practice of letting the omnipotent narrator fill in what a more experienced writer would reveal through action or unforced dialogue. Every third-rate How-to-Write-Fiction book tells the aspiring author to create complete biographies of all his or her characters, but this stuff should be discarded, not clumsily inserted into the novel in place of believable characterizations.

An inordinate amount of time is spent describing what even the most minor character wears and how his or her hair is styled, but the sensual aspects of the setting—the atmosphere, the sounds and smells—are virtually ignored

or presented in such a pedestrian way that they lose all impact. Cassady's dialogue lacks any differentiation between characters. If it weren't for those "Lou said" and "said Willie" dialogue-tags, you'd have a hard time figuring out who was talking.

## Interesting Premise

Cassady does come up with an interesting premise. Using a popularized form of quantum physics and parallel universe theory, he postulates that time travel is possible not by moving backward and forward in our own space-time continuum, but by entering the past or future of parallel time lines that are close to and therefore *almost* the same as ours. If the time traveler does something to alter the pattern of events, it will have no effect on the traveler's own universe.

This allows Cassady to get

around that old bugaboo of time travel fiction: the "grandfather effect." If the main character travels back in time and accidentally kills his or her grandfather, then the time traveler would have to cease to exist. But Cassady's premise remains a gimmick. There is no sense that the parallel universes his time travelers enter are just slightly different from their own. Cassady keeps telling the reader there's a difference, but can't come up with any way to make the reader *feel* the difference.

For the record, the plot of *Alternate Casts* involves a universe-hopping serial killer and the efforts of two employees of Travel Inc., a secret corporation that invented time travel, to stop him. Lou Graham, whose wife and children were slaughtered by the killer, and Willie Simpson, whose great-grandmother is

the madman's next target, travel back to nineteenth century New York City and get involved in the world of professional theater while tracking down the culprit. In the process, Willie acknowledges his homosexuality.

On the surface this sounds like it should be exciting reading, a real page-turner. Yet Cassady lacks even the slightest talent for creating suspense. The characters are cardboard cutouts that he pushes around to suit the needs of the increasingly convoluted plot. With all this universe-hopping going on, it's important that the settings be vivid, the people be carefully drawn and memorable and that plausibility be maintained. Cassady fails on all accounts.

Usually, an ineptly written book doesn't bother me as much as *Alternate Casts* did. Sure, it's an unsatisfying read



and a waste of time, but there's something disheartening in the fact that a publisher like Banned Books couldn't find any better science fiction to publish than this. If good gay and lesbian science fiction and fantasy manuscripts are such a scarce commodity, isn't it better to hold out for the truly exceptional book than to publish whatever gets thrown through the transom and hope that hungry fans will devour anything, regardless of how little nourishment it provides or how awful it tastes? ▼

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This year's winners will be announced in October, and honored at a reception and screening. For guidelines and entry forms, send a SASE to: Film Arts Foundation, 346 Ninth Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103. ▼

# Still Nancy

(Continued from page 29)

What if Stallone and Eastwood are not what they seem? And macho John Wayne just some big cattle queen.

What if tough old Chuck Norris and butch young Pat Swayze put on Judy Garland and squeal and go crazy.

What if Arnold Schwarzenegger had a change in libido now instead of pumping iron he pumps Danny DeVito? ...

To find out what inspired such Proustian insights, the B.A.R. forced Mr. Sweeney into the following interview.

\* \* \*

Have you sent your pal, Ron Reagan Jr., an autographed copy of the book yet?

No, I haven't yet. I haven't sent any of the Reagans a copy of the book, but I'm sure I probably will ... just as a gift.

When you do major interviews, and we know you will, will you be dressed up as Nancy in her Adolfo?

Oh, when I do any interviews or the book signings, I'll be as Nancy signing the books and greeting my fans. So definitely, yes.

Did you ever write poetry before this?

Well, when I was doing performance art with this group called the Best Human Players in New York, I had written a lot of song parodies which were poetry really. The lyrics. It was mostly about the Moonies at that time. We had a whole medley about Reverend Moon. So it was poetry of a sort. This is the first time I've really officially written poetry. I love it.

What about as an adolescent? Did you write love poetry?

(As nasty Nancy) Oh, none of your business. (As himself) As an adolescent. ... You mean poems to other. ... Yeah, I've written poetry before. I've gotten three poems published. I've started writing screen plays and a whole lot of other material, but I've gotten away from writing poetry. When you were growing up, was this a dream? Did Rod McKuen or Walt Whitman have any effect on you?

Well, I did love Walt Whitman. As a matter of fact, I loved Walt Whitman's poems. They're beautiful. I like his poetry so in a way he has influenced me.

But not Rod McKuen?

movie star cast. Michael Anthony Hall was in there. Did Eddie Murphy do homophobic bits when he guested on Saturday Night?

No, he did more in his concert. He did it afterwards in Raw, his concert film. I think that was some of his worse stuff. But the thing about Saturday Night Live is that it's kind of pseudoliberal. It's people who are cynical about everything. They come from the point of view that the world stinks and let's expose all the hypocrisy. Let's just make fun of everyone and everything.

That's not where my sense of humor comes from. The fact they would have an Andrew Dice Clay as a host shows there's not a sensibility. They don't care. That's what I think Danitra Vance felt as a black woman. And that's what the other women or myself as a gay man felt. We felt the oppression of the straight-white-male kind of like pseudoliberal behavior,

but I think in their minds it limited them. Like I was a separate entity that couldn't do these other things. With this book was there research involved?

Yes, for my character. First of all I did lots of research on Nancy from when I started to play her. I read all the books she'd written before this. There are some charming little books about when she was the governor's wife and on the way to the White House, with little soft focus covers on them. For this book, though, I always kept up with whatever she was doing.

After her book, *My Turn*, came out, people would wave it in front of me and ask, "What are you going to do about this book?" So this is my response. I feel like my show and the book are a kind of group therapy for a nation getting over the Reagans. We're still, you know, in like Reagan fallout. It's like the country went unconscious for ten years. We're all coming to and saying, "What happened?" This is horrible! We're all in debt. We're r-ruined. They r-ruined us!"

But while they were there, everybody was going, "Oh, they're so-o great!"

Did you receive lots of fan letters from gays when you were on SNL?

Yes, I did. I got lots from teenagers who were grateful that I was a gay person who was on TV, especially because I was in *People* magazine with my lover. There was a big article about us.

After the *People* piece I got a lot of letters also saying how much it meant to the writers that I was openly gay. At that time we had been together about six or seven years. I mean it meant a lot to gay people living in remote areas. I got letters from South Dakota and Iowa saying, "You don't know how much it meant to read about you and your lover."

Especially because AIDS was just going on then, and people were just terrified of being openly gay because there was just so much paranoia about AIDS. People were ashamed of being gay. No one was to say they were gay because by association they might have AIDS. That's when I came out.

Right before the show started, there was AIDS hysteria in the *New York Post*. So I told them that I was openly gay and if they were going to hire me, fine. If that was a problem they didn't have to hire me. I was willing to put my whole career on the line. And they hired me and I felt that was a triumph for myself, gay people, and for the network to be willing to do it.

They didn't push that fact. You did.

Right. They didn't push it. They didn't say we've hired the first open gay, but I did. I mentioned it every time I got interviewed and I put it in my press release that I was openly gay.

Was there any right wing move to get you off the show?

I didn't get one nasty letter, one anything about that. That was amazing. At that time, Christians were still organizing. There was censorship within the show. The NBC censors would say, "Oh, you can't do this. You can't say that."

Most of my battles were with the censors. I wanted to do more outrageous stuff, and

they were like "No! No! No! We're not safe with this." So that was very frustrating. It didn't even get to the point of protesting, because the show was censoring itself. *Saturday Night Live* had already become a major business. It was making millions of dollars. Their thing was how can we reach the most number of people. So I think that's when



Terry Sweeney's back as Nancy.

the censorship came in. Because in the beginning it was who knows who's watching this show?

I remember seeing you at an AIDS benefit very early on put on by the fashion industry. So you were really out there early on.

Yeah, in the beginning. There was so much to do. We all had to get in there and do whatever we could. There was no money coming in from anywhere else. So I worked myself to the bone because I had a lot of friends who've been infected and died.

Are you looking for work now more as a performer than a writer?

When I originally wrote the book, I scheduled two readings at Highways, a performance space in Santa Monica. They were both sold out, and they asked me to keep on going. So I kept going from February all the way to May, and every single show was sold out. So I decided, "Gee, I'm going to take this on the road."

In the meantime I got a publisher for the book, and then I came out to New York, and the shows were sold out and doing really well. Then it was picked up for off-Broadway. But I'm especially excited because the book is being released nationally. I always think about gays in the Midwest reading it, going, "Ooooh, It's Great!!" Of course, if their bookstores don't have it, people should go in and demand it!!

Will you leave us with a poem?

Of, course. This is titled, "So There!"

Barbara Bush has a very large tush yes, a very large tush has she

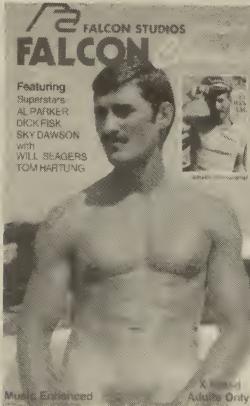
And everybody knows that she wears her old clothes 'cause she's just as cheap as she can be.

So to those who rave that the country is saved now that Barbara has taken my place

I say history will find I was one of a kind there was no one as petty as me!

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# Phrancy Speaking

by David Taylor-Wilson

**I**t was slightly over a year ago that the Beat first heard of Phranc in a description that tagged her as the first Jewish, lesbian folk singer. But we didn't have a sample of her music until this past week.

Island Records has just released *Folksinger*, the debut effort by Phranc. This 13-track collection is both gut-splittingly humorous and startlingly real — and all the while refreshing in its simple approach.

With a voice and style that are part Joni Mitchell, part Janis Ian and part Judy Collins (if you can imagine that) and acoustic guitar licks that successfully convey her passion, Phranc — and *Folksinger* — can stand tall and proud.

The lead track, "One of the Girls," had us doubled over in fits as Phranc sang about the pressures she's suffered to shave her legs and how she's just fine, *thank you very much*, with her flattop and army boots.

In "The Ballad of the Dumb Hairdresser," Phranc comes to the rescue of tress-trimming women everywhere and declares them much more than just dumb hairdressers: they're *smart* barbers.

On "Amazons" she confess-

es a true love for large, physically adept women, and on "Carolyn," Phranc takes that theme a step further as she declares her desire to be handsome, muscular and able to lift as many barbells as her idol, Carolyn.

Political statements range from her dislike of "Female Mudwrestling" and people that illegally park in "Handicapped" zones to comments on the comic book adventures of Pope John Paul II in "Caped Crusader."

*Folksinger* was originally recorded in 1985 and independently distributed. Now available on CD from Island Records, this release includes the hilarious bonus track, "Everywhere I Go (I Hear The Go-Gos)."

## Eyeing the Beat

It was couch potato week recently at the sprawling penthouse suite offices of the Beat. We took the phone off the hook and locked ourselves in the screening room to sift through piles of recent music videos. Here are a few of our favorites:

*Adeva*, "Warning," (3:34, emergency mix), directed by Mick Kleber. The best and most energetically infectious dance video we've seen in a long time. Adeva practically reaches out, grabs you, shakes you to life, and then throws

you on the dance floor.

*Bang*, "Holding My Heart," (3:46 and 6:49), no credits. A new pretty-boy dance duo, whose first release for A&M Records will easily find its way to pop radio. Clubs should have no problem programming the remix.

*Oaktown 3-5-7*, "We Like It" (4:56), directed by Jonathan Siegel. Really, it's just a coincidence that our favorite female rappers are also locals. Their new single grooves as rough and tough as their previous hit, "Juicy."

With mainline samples from K.C. and The Sunshine Band's "That's The Way (I Like It)," the Oaktown ladies once again show off their vigorous, fast-as-lightning dance moves.

*Milira*, "Mercy Mercy Me

(Continued on page 50)



Phranc: first Jewish, lesbian folksinger.

# Sizzling La Baker

by David Taylor-Wilson

**A**s if the 103-degree temperature last Wednesday (Aug. 8) weren't enough, Anita Baker made an appearance that night at the Concord Pavilion with a sizzling set of pop, jazz and r&b numbers that kept the mercury rising.

Ms. Baker was there in support of her third Elektra album, *Compositions*. Her debut album for Elektra, *Rapture*, entrenched her in the minds of millions as the leading lady of love and romance.

From the minute Baker set foot on stage in her slinky, black dress, cooing her familiar moan over the intro, the crowd roared with enthusiastic approval. They knew they were going to get just what they paid for: a night of love and romance from La Baker.

Baker repaid them by getting personal, using every break between songs to edge her way out to the audience to shake hands, give and get kisses (not to mention a bevy of floral arrangements), and just to dish.

Baker's vocals were in fine form that evening. Her alto register swung seductively from a low lament to piercing declarations of desire.

Surprisingly, she performed only a few selections from her new album. Most of the night she took requests from the audience, which only endeared her to them all the more.

Toward the end of the evening, Baker bid her audience adieu, yet remained on-stage to perform two more songs. She then exited to thunderous applause and a



Anita Baker.

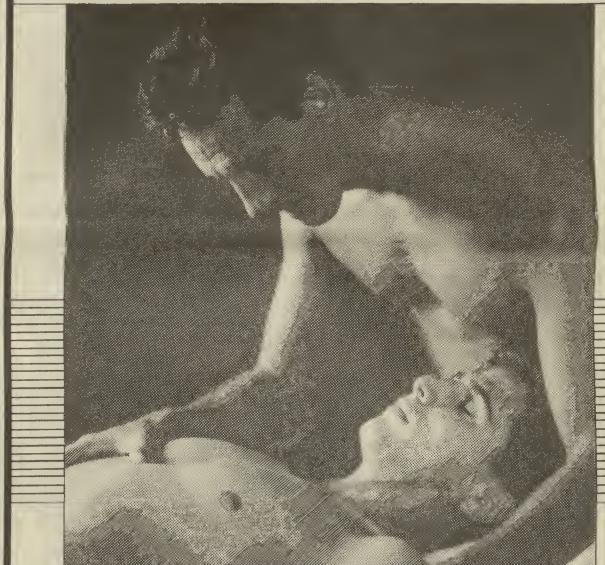
standing ovation.

Right after her exit, the house lights came on and the crowd began to leave. Baker then reappeared onstage with a very puzzled look on her face. Her voice boomed suddenly through the amplifiers: "Boy, you Bay Area people sure do leave in a hurry! Don't stick around for nothing, do you?"

People turned around to see her standing alone onstage and began a stampede towards her. Baker continued, "We usually don't finish a show without doing our favorite song. But if you guys have got somewhere to get to ..." The crowd, equally puzzled by what had occurred, screamed with appreciation at her return, and her band reclaimed their places.

Baker closed with an exceptionally moving rendition of "You Bring Me Joy." And this time the audience wasn't taking any chances: they waited until all the house lights came on — and Baker had been gone for at least five minutes — before leaving. ▼

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# Not Quite Foolproof

by George Heymont

Some operas enjoy such widespread popularity with audiences that it would almost seem impossible for them to fail in performance. The audience knows the opera's hit tunes by heart, feels passionately about its protagonists and can practically hum along with the singers.

Unfortunately, too much familiarity with the work can also invite danger in the form of odious comparisons to past performances and stagings.

This summer I had a curious opportunity to witness performances of two operatic masterworks that, by general consensus, are foolproof. Each boasts a score filled with wonderful music and has a well-tailored plot with a beginning, middle and end. Although each opera is a staple of the repertoire, both performances fell dangerously short of the mark.

In one case, the blame lay primarily with the singers. In the other, it was entirely due to the work of a sorely misguided stage director. But, as they say in the theatre: We learn the most from our mistakes.

## Camille in the Cornfields

This was my second season visiting the Des Moines Metro Opera, one of the nation's most fascinating regional companies. DMMO has a pretty solid record of doing excellent work in its uniquely

shaped 485-seat theatre. However, while the company's 1990 productions of *Martha* and *Boris Godunov* were solid hits, the performance of *La Traviata* I attended proved to be a surprising disappointment. Like Alfred P. Doolittle, I went into this *Traviata* "wantin' to hear it, waitin' to hear it, and wishin' to hear it!" Alas, the "it" did not quite live up to expectations.

And for the strangest reasons imaginable. It's hard enough to do a decent performance of *Traviata* without a strong performer cast as Violetta or Alfredo. But to mount this opera with three weak leads is asking for trouble. The most disturbing work of the evening came from David Rudat's Alfredo. A handsome tenor with a voice of highly questionable quality, Rudat's vocal insecurities were further sabotaged by his semaphoric style of acting.

Although baritone Kimm Julian may be a local hero in Iowa, his portrayal of the elder Germont sounded strained and lacked any sense of Verdian style (ironically, while singing a very different type of music the next night in Mussorgsky's *Boris Godunov* — a declamatory passage far better suited to his talent — Julian gave a splendid performance).

That left the Violetta of Claudia Cummings, a creditable soprano whose honest attempt to capture Violetta's plight never once tugged at my heart strings. Cummings

had noticeable problems negotiating the coloratura in Act I's "Sempre libera," but her voice settled into place as the evening progressed.

DMMO's production also suffered from a rather clumsy English translation. While I found the stage direction by Robert Larsen (who conducts and directs all three productions for Des Moines Metro Opera) rather ineffective, his *Traviata* proved to be the only weak link in DMMO's otherwise spectacular season.

## Mauling Mozart

Far more alarming — if not downright appalling — was the new production of Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*, directed by Stephen Wadsworth for the Opera Theatre of St. Louis. Wadsworth is one of those directors for whom there are no gray areas: When his work is good (as in the productions of Wagner's *The Flying Dutchman* and Gluck's *Orfeo*, which he has staged for the Seattle Opera), it is brilliant. And when it is bad (as in OTSL's ill-fated production of *Alcina*), it reeks to high hell.

My guess is that Wadsworth's strength really lies in the process of conceptualization: analyzing the content and dramatic intentions of each moment during pre-production periods. Often, when he attempts to translate his thoughts into staged action using live singers, a curious kind of clumsiness creeps



OTSL's new production of *The Marriage of Figaro* featured Kurt Ollmann as Count Almaviva, Rebecca Abram as Susanna and Lorraine Hunt as the horny page, Cherubino.

(Photo: Ken Howard)

into his stagecraft, sabotaging the intellectual brilliance of the message he is trying to communicate to the audience.

What made this interpretation of *The Marriage of Figaro* so difficult to digest was the simple fact that Lorenzo da Ponte's libretto is a rock-solid affair (you'd almost have to use dynamite to derail it from its dramatic course). Even allowances made for the fact that OTSL's cast was on its third conductor (Joseph Rescigno took over the podium for the June 17 performance), cannot excuse the horrific excrescences of this blighted event.

So much of this production did a gross disservice to the musical and dramatic thrust of Mozart's opera that it really left me wondering why no one had blown the whistle on obviously grotesque mistakes during pre-production and rehearsals. Was OTSL's artistic staff operating in a complete state of denial?

It's true that the action in this Mozart/Da Ponte masterpiece takes place on the eve of major social change. However, it's also true that a house of cards topples quite easily. Who OK'd the Countess' nauseating green costumes (made from fabrics which did not distinguish her from her servants)? How

about that awful moment when, for lack of anything better to do, Wadsworth had his cast marching around in circles like kindergarten children during recess?

To make matters worse, many of the singers seemed surprisingly miscast. Brenda Harris' Countess showed no emotional involvement whatsoever, reminding me of the character in *A Chorus Line* who always "felt nothing."

Although Rebecca Abram's Susanna had strong appeal, she developed pitch problems which continued to plague her throughout the evening. Paul Kreider's burly voice was ill-suited to Figaro's music; Kurt Ollmann's Count Almaviva occasionally seemed a bit too fey. That left Lorraine Hunt's rather ordinary Cherubino, Roger Havranek's Dr. Bartolo and Dana Krueger's Marcelina holding up the show.

With such peculiar casting, it didn't take long for OTSL's production of *The Marriage of Figaro* to implode under the weight of Wadsworth's direction. All I can hope is that Mr. Wadsworth has better success with Mozart's *Abduction from the Seraglio* and *La Clemenza di Tito*, which he is scheduled to direct in San Francisco and Houston this season. ▼

## Hockney Sets, Costumes for 'Turandot'

San Francisco Opera and Lyric Opera of Chicago have announced plans to co-produce Giacomo Puccini's *Turandot* with sets and costumes designed by world-renowned artist David Hockney and his collaborator, Ian Falconer. The production, which will be seen as part of San Francisco Opera's 1993 fall season, will be directed by San Francisco Opera General Director Lotfi Mansouri both here and at the production's unveiling during the Lyric Opera's 1991-92 season. Renowned Hungarian soprano Eva Marton will sing

the title role in Chicago and San Francisco.

The Hockney-designed *Turandot* will be the third opera production created by the famous artist to be mounted by San Francisco Opera. His production of Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress*, originally designed for the Glyndebourne Festival, was seen in an expanded version at the War Memorial Opera House in 1982 and '88; and his designs for Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, also created for Glyndebourne, were seen in 1987. ▼

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Bay Area Reporter

# Sports & Fitness



(Photos: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

## San Francisco Athletes Perform Well at Gay Games

by Rick Thoman

Although all the final scores will not be available for another week or so, one thing seems clear from the unofficial results of Gay Games III: San Francisco is at the forefront of gay sports, having won gold medal victories in everything from bowling to billiards, softball to swimming, track and field to touch football.

Amid the controversy of competition versus participation, Gay Games III arguably became the most competitive Games on record. And San Francisco, with its broad base of sports organizations, continued to be the dominant force in Gay Games athletics.

Vancouver organizers are still sorting out results and determining how they will be presented. At press time, it was uncertain whether final results would be issued by name alone or name and city organization.

According to one volunteer compiling the statistics from Gay Games III, the initial thought was to stay away from "nationalizing" the results, pitting one city or country against another in the medal count, and instead to remain with the philosophy of individual participation, listing only the winners'

names and nothing else.

However, athletes, coaches and spectators alike are clamoring to know how each city did in each sport and the Celebration '90 organizers are now trying to redo their initial lists of results.

When final results are available, expect to see a lot of San Franciscans at the top of the charts.

### SF's Edge in Athletics

San Francisco continues to hold an edge over many other cities due to its longstanding sports programs. Most cities went home from the '86 Games and are returning from Celebration '90 knowing they need to play catch-up with San Francisco in the world of gay sports.

A case in point is San Francisco's excellent swimming program, which incorporates a wide range of swimmers and which competes in nongay competitions every year between the Games. As a result, the team won gold medals in every swimming relay they entered, men's and women's, in a broad range of age groups, in addition to the individual medals they captured throughout the week.

Many cities came prepared to compete in Vancouver. Track and field was predominantly a San Francisco event

during the past two Games, but this year Los Angeles and Australia both brought teams that scored a number of upsets against the San Francisco squad.

New York has its work cut out in trying to organize Gay Games IV. If the philosophy of inclusion of all remains, and the number of participants doubles in size again, Gay Games IV could be running competitions for weeks just to whittle down the field to the final gold medal contestants.

Regardless of what happens, San Francisco will be looking over its shoulder at the "catch-up" cities and will have to prepare even harder to hold onto its spot as the gay sports leader in New York '94.

So it's goodbye Vancouver and Celebration '90, and on to New York, 1994. And anyone thinking of participating in the 1994 Gay Games should take a hint from Vancouver and start getting prepared now. ▼



## Swimmer Sets Two World Records

by Mary Richards

You broke two world records. How did you do it?

White wine and chlorine. Just kidding. I've been swimming since I was 11-years-old through college, and then I laid off competitively until this last January. I picked it up again when I joined the West Hollywood Club.

Why did you enter the Gay Games?

I joined the Club initially as a social outlet — I'm just recently "out." I wasn't planning to compete. I went to two workouts, but the spirit is so high in that team that that's all that it took. I decided to go ahead and compete, which I have done in about five or six meets and signed up for the Gay Olympics. I'm sure glad I did! (He has not been to any other Gay Games.)

How was the process of coming out?

Very slow in my case. It was difficult. The Games have been a big, big part of it. The support that I get from the team has been a big, big part of it, and I can't say enough about the team. It's wonderful.

What kind of work do you do?

I'm vice president of operations for a toy development company in Los Angeles.

(Continued from page 42)

# Physique Spectacular

by Dianne Aaronson

Gay/lesbian physique contests are always spectacular events. Take that a few steps further and you've got the Gay Games III Physique Contest, held Tuesday, Aug. 7, at the Orpheum Theatre in Vancouver.

The setting was superb. The Orpheum Theatre is an exquisite plush oldtimer with red carpets, ornate chandeliers and staircases leading everywhere. The stage was a perfect size, with a built-in backdrop as ornate as the lobby.

This is about all I can tell you about that side of the stage, since I spent most of my time either backstage or on stage. I do know, however, that the quality and quantity of contestants (approximately 175) far exceeded that of the previous two Games.

## Stiff Competition

Some weight classes had as many as 25 contestants. All categories offered stiff competition.

Because of the number of competitors, only the top three in each category had the opportunity to perform in the evening show. This is a misfortune, not only for the competitors who had worked so hard on their routines, but also for the audience who had paid top dollar (front-row seats sold for \$50), because the routines were all fantastic.

However, I don't think anyone in the audience left feeling cheated judging from the applause and screams coming from the sold-out house, seating capacity 3,000.

Behind the scenes that day, it was a rather grueling affair, though the quality of the athletes showed not just through their muscle size but also through their energy and spirit. All were friendly, respectful and supportive of each other. When we started getting tired, we giggled and made jokes instead of becoming irritable.

For the athletes competing in both individual and pairs events like myself, the judging part of the day went from 9:30 a.m. almost through to the evening show. I finally left the theatre for some fresh air and a quick return to my hotel at 4:30 p.m. We were required to return by 5:30 p.m. for the evening show which began at 7 p.m.

Add to that the fact that the dressing rooms were in the basement, the stage door one flight up and the rehearsal/pump-up room on the fourth floor (approximately three flights per floor), and it's not hard to imagine that we were a tired bunch by the time the evening show got underway. Most of us didn't even bother pumping up again because we were so drained.

## Gold Getters

San Francisco represented a



Bodybuilders backstage at Gay Games III.

(Photo: Janelle Joslyn)

large portion of the physique athletes with around 30 bodybuilders. We also walked away with one-third of the medals.

I have had a chance to speak to many audience members since that time. Many had never before attended a physique contest; all spoke of having been inspired. The only negatives I heard related to disagreements with the judges' decisions regarding the female categories.

It is unfortunate that there was only one female judge on a panel of five and that the rules by which women's physi-

que is judged are still so arbitrary. Sometimes judges look for the muscle, sometimes for the definition and sometimes, unfortunately, women are still judged on someone else's concept of "femininity."

The judging standards are much more cut and dry for the men, as is evidenced by the fact that the audience and fellow competitors were generally able to predict the winners for the men. In the women's categories, some of the final decisions left competitors and the audience in open-mouthed disbelief.

We can only hope that this will improve. I think it is up to the gay/lesbian community to once again lead the way. Clear and defined bodybuilding standards for women must be set.

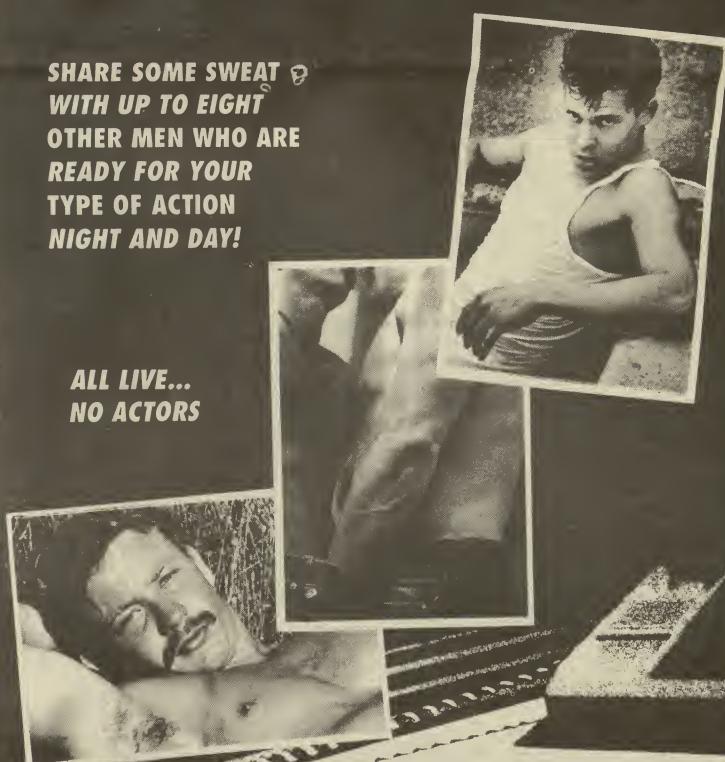
The next Gay Games will also have to provide more female judges. According to one male judge I spoke to, Arctic of Sydney, Australia, only women judge women in the land down under. Perhaps that's not such a bad idea.

All in all, the event was a success. Congratulations again to San Francisco for bringing home so much of the gold. ▼

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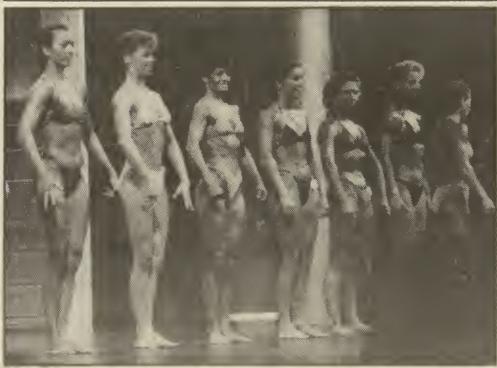
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Female lightweight competitors on stage.

(Photo: Darlene/Photo Graphics)



## On The Ice

Seattle beat Los Angeles in the ice hockey finals to take the gold at Gay Games III.

(Photo: Darlene/Photo Graphics)

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## Records

(Continued from page 40)

**You were married before?**  
I'm in the process of being divorced now and have two children, 19 and 21.

**Are they proud of you?**

I haven't talked to them yet (laughter), that's part of the problem. I have to work some of that out yet.

**Maybe they'll see the publicity before you get home...**

I don't know. I've called and talked to my wife and let her know what's going on because I didn't want it to be a shock. But I hope they'll be proud of me.

**How do you feel about winning?**

I feel wonderful (laughter)! I feel great about it. When I swam I was pointing towards breaking the record. I have been asked a lot about how it felt when it happened, and at the end of each race I looked up at the clock to see and I couldn't see the clock because I don't swim with goggles and

the chlorine blurred my vision. So I took a quick look over at the team and in both cases they were on their feet and yelling frantically, so I knew I had broken the records. I'll never forget that moment. It was unbelievable.

**Will you be at the next Gay Games?**

Definitely. I'll start training now, and I'll be 54 — at the top of my age group.

**Tom Reudy, 35, West Hollywood Aquatics**

**Before we get to you, tell us about Mike and your work with him.**

Mike's great. He joined us about six or seven months ago, and besides being a great guy, he's an incredible swimmer, obviously. So that's nice — having a good person get such an award.

We all knew he had a shot at the record — we thought he was going to get it. Our team is very close-knit, it's like a family, everyone's thrilled. There's no jealousy, no envy or anything like that. Everyone is

just very positive.

Right now, support means a lot to Mike. Having come out at 50-years-old, he has a lot to catch up. It's a little overwhelming. He's gotten a lot of attention up here so he comes to us for support and we're there for him. We understand where he's coming from.

**So how did you win your gold (in 50 breast, 200 breast, 200 individual medley, 400 individual medley).**

By a lot of hard work. (Laughs).

**Were these Gay Games tougher than the other ones?**

The numbers are a lot greater and the competition is becoming much more fierce; and the level has risen quite a few steps and that's nice to see also. It's going to keep getting bigger and bigger.

**What was your team's preparation like?**

Our team worked very hard, about six days a week, three miles a day. ▼



### Stepping Out

Members of the English Bay Swim Club of Vancouver let loose at the Celebration '90 closing party.

(Photo: Darlene/Photo Graphics)

### AIDS Survivors, Thrivers to Speak

The Metaphysical Alliance will present AIDS Survivors and Thrivers — Part VIII on Saturday, Aug. 18, at 7 p.m. at the Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka.

Featured speakers will be George Melton, Jay Baldwin and Bob Menefee (all long-term AIDS survivors and thrivers). Melton is also co-author of *Beyond AIDS*.

The Metaphysical Alliance is a non-profit religious corporation dedicated to the proposition that AIDS can be healed. This is the only event planned at this time.

All services are on a contribution basis. Signing for the hearing impaired provided upon advance request.

Call 431-0269 or 673-7397 for more information. ▼

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Nasty  
Mr. Marcus  
Up To?  
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Bazaar**

### Sports Calendar

#### SF Spikes

Soccer practice on Tuesdays, 8 p.m., at West Sunset Soccer Fields, 40th Ave. & Ortega, and Thursdays, 8 p.m., at Moscone Field, Chestnut & Laguna. Carlo, 821-4248.

#### Tsunami Gay/Lesbian Swim Team

Sundays, 10 a.m.-noon, at King Pool, 3rd St. & Carroll. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 7:30-9 p.m., at Hamilton Pool, Geary & Steiner. Laurie, 255-9091, or Johnny, 626-0561.

#### SF Water Polo

Thursdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 9:10-10:30 a.m., at Coffman Pool, Visitacion & Hahn. Men & women of all skill levels welcome. John, 621-0783.

#### SF FrontRunners

Tuesday Fun Runs, 6:30 p.m., at Ferry Bldg. Embarcadero; no-host dinner follows. Thursday Fun Runs, 6:30 p.m., at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park; no-host dinner follows. Sunday Fun Runs, 10 a.m., location TBA. Rod, 621-2213.

#### East Bay FrontRunners

Saturday, Aug. 18: Strawberry Canyon Run. Meet in Space Sciences Bldg. parking lot, UC Berkeley Campus, at 9:30 a.m. Roz, 939-3579, or Greg, 865-6792.

#### Long Runners

For info call Dave, 626-1380.

#### Different Spokes Bicycle Club

Sunday, Aug. 19: A ride for women only. Moderate 30-mi. ride through the Park, Presidio, Great Hwy, Lake Merced and over Twin Peaks ending in the Castro. Call Susan Unger, 863-6737. Decide-and-Rides each Saturday & Sunday, 10 a.m., at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park. All levels welcome. Weekly schedule, 282-1647. Write: PO Box 14711, SF 94114.

#### SF Hiking Club

For info call Clyde, 285-1260.

#### SF Track & Field Club

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30 p.m., and Sundays, 10:30 a.m., at SF State University track, 1600 Holloway. All skill levels welcome. Rick, 626-8784.

# Gold Rush for SFPA Women

Gay Games veterans know that San Francisco has a tradition of producing gold medalist women pool players, and that tradition was upheld in Vancouver as Lisa Duncan guided her team to the gold in a second consecutive Gay Games effort.

Marquita Booth, Krista Smith and Karen Brandman, a recent West Coast Challenge runner-up, were members of the Gay Games II gold medalist team in 8-ball. In addition to their gold in 8-ball, they claimed a bronze in team 9-ball. To further add to her larger-than-life status, Duncan went on to capture golds in both individual 8-ball and 9-ball.

SF women swept the individual 8-ball event as Toni Macante won the silver and Jackie Fournier won the bronze. Tim Chitwood was the lone SF men's medalist with a bronze in individual 8-ball.

This was the largest gay-oriented pool event in history with approximately 200 players. There were 26 women's teams. Ninety-three women pool players participated in the Games.

"It was grueling," reported an elated but exhausted Lisa Duncan. "We're talking 15 hours at a stretch with a couple of 10-minute breaks."

There were a total of eight events as men and women



Lisa Duncan captured the gold in Vancouver.

competed in team and individual 8-ball and 9-ball. The double elimination contests were held on 13 eight-foot tables. Further details will be forthcoming as the participants filter back home.

★ ★

The SF Pool Association has taken a stand against the boycott of their most ardent corporate supporter, Miller, and their local distributor, Golden Brands. Both have a long track record of support for our community and are suffering because of the actions of their parent company, Philip Morris. ▼

## Pacers Take Easy Gold SF Dominates Basketball

by Joe Nelson

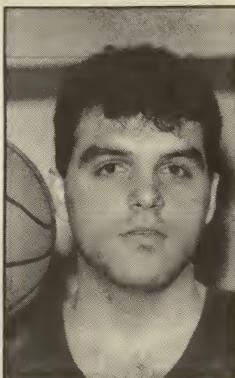
The Pendulum Pacers waltzed to a gold medal in the Gay Games III men's basketball competition with a final game victory over the Long Beach Lancers 93 to 59. The Pacers averaged 110 points a game and had an average victory margin of 52 points.

Out of the 12 teams, San Francisco took two of the final four slots. The Streakers won a bronze medal, though they were stuck with playing the other San Francisco team in the semifinals.

En route to the gold, the Pacers beat Denver, San Diego, Los Angeles and the Streakers. The Streakers beat Boston, San Diego, Atlanta and suffered a five-point loss to a different Los Angeles team.

Averaging over 10 points a game for the Pacers were Daryl Morgan, Steve Moore, John Wood, Mark Johnson and Mike Gray. Mike Gray and Mike White were the big boardsmen for the team. The Streakers' stars were Wes Wilkinson, Louie James, Ray Sears, Larry Cunniffe and Greg Sanders.

This year's competition was



Mike White

significantly tougher than the previous two games. Only one out of 12 teams failed to win a game. San Diego, Los Angeles and San Francisco were all represented by two teams, but only San Diego (besides San Francisco) managed to get a team into the final four. With no team closer than the buzzer than 34 points, the Pacers proved themselves to be the best gay basketball team in the world! ▼

From Facts To Fashion  
Check Bay Area Reporter  
Every Week

## Moments

(Continued from page 31)  
are doing in different parts of the world.

"We will fight nail and tooth to [come to the Gay Games in the future]. We are not really far from that freedom and things have been happening recently for us. We have been drawing up a lesbian and gay charter, and the African National Congress (ANC) has been extending their support to lesbians and gays. We are having our first lesbian and gay pride march on the 13th of October, and we're hoping things will go right."

Margot Antonetti, San Francisco, Runner

"I'm going to start crying in a second, that's what it means

to me to run. I was at the opening and closing of the last Gay Games and this time I wanted to be an athlete — I'm really happy."

Shawn Kelly, San Francisco, Vice President, Federation of Gay Games

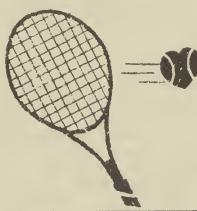
"I think this week has been spectacular. I can't imagine a better time. Everything's gone well organizationally, financially, spiritually, emotionally, meteorologically! It's been fabulous."

Will people be happy with the next location for the Gay Games [New York]?

I think that no matter where the Gay Games goes, anywhere on the planet, anyone who has had this experience is going to want to be at the next one." ▼

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# Pushing the Limits

(Continued from page 29) tation of "story line"; linear just isn't their style. *Brave New Whirl*, then, is both a reprise, and a refinement of the performance techniques with which Persona Grata has become identified.

Chief among these, perhaps, is Iger and Kwan's commitment to the concept of "montage." In Persona Grata's work meaning does not unfold, it accumulates. Explains Kwan, "It's like writing Chinese characters." (Chinese is one of the four languages he speaks.) "How Chinese pictorial language works is, when you put a pictograph with one meaning next to another [with another meaning], you create a new word with yet an entirely different meaning."

It is that ability of juxtaposed images to expand and to germinate that Kwan and Iger exploit in their performance work. Using taped nar-

ration, abstract movement, film, music, slide projections, striking lighting effects, live staging and an overarching visual concept they call "stage noir," Kwan and Iger create series of evocative, often startling images.

As a result, their work almost always occupies the territory of symbol and archetype, of memory and of dreams. It asks not "What does this mean?" but "What does this remind you of? What connections do you make?" It is work, in other words, that constantly implicates the audience in the construction of meaning.

## Artist and Audience

Iger and Kwan have repeatedly emphasized that collaboration between artist and audience. In *Autobiography of Another*, for example, a 1987/1988 piece, Kwan and Iger opened with side projections of Rorschach-like



Iger and Kwan's intestined brat-child from the set of *Brave New World*.

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inkblots. The Rorschach blots have no intrinsic meaning, of course, but they were a reminder that meaning is inferred in Persona Grata's work, that it is only genuinely revealed through the observer's responses.

Persona Grata's travels through dream landscapes are enhanced by another of their trademarks, the giant masks and expressionistic soft-sculpture costumes that Kwan and Iger create themselves and wear on stage. It is a tenet of Persona Grata's style, in fact, that Kwan and Iger never expose their own faces in performance.

Kwan notes, "We're trying not to let ourselves get involved on stage. When you put a mask on, that whole [personal] identity is gone — you become something else, something much larger than yourself. The masked character is much more powerful than the actual person."

To call Iger and Kwan's creations "masks," however, hardly does them justice. *Brave New Whirl* includes not only a 10-foot-tall, scat-singing Crocodile Mama with eight breasts, but an extravagantly costumed brat-child, whose body is one huge loop of intestine.

Indeed, the masks and costumes are art objects in their own right, and that is often how Iger and Kwan display them. (Watch for their upcoming exhibition at Galeria de

La Raza, for example.)

Persona Grata's work is particularly influenced, Kwan says, by traditional Asian art and theatre. Kwan's own cultural history (as a Chinese born in American-occupied Vietnam) contributes significantly to that perspective, as did the year-long trip he and Iger took throughout Southeast Asia in 1982. The street

## Kwan and Iger create evocative, often startling images.

theatre, folklore and religious festivals they observed there left an indelible impression on them and have since guided their work.

### East Meets West

In a Kwan and Iger production, then, it is not unusual to encounter stick puppets akin to those used in Balinese shadow theatre; the subtle, stylized movement of Noh drama and Chinese opera; or hand and body gestures that resemble the symbolic mudras of Bharata Natyam, the classical dance of South India. The Asian motifs are intensi-

fied by the scores created for Persona Grata by John DiStefano, whose music includes passages reminiscent of koto, shakuhachi and even gamelan.

But if Persona Grata is deeply influenced by the East, it is no less at home in the ethos of the West (Iger, after all, was born and raised in Brooklyn). "We feel there's really a mixture of our two cultures in our [graphic art] work and in our theatre," Kwan says. "It's really healthy for us, in the sense that we have these two cultures that clash, and at the same time [they provide] a give and take."

He adds, "When we do things, we don't make distinctions like 'I am the mask maker' or 'He is the costume designer.' It doesn't matter. What matters is getting the work done and sharing it with the audience. Besides, we really do work on everything together. I will make a mask sometimes and Arnold will paint it. Or one of us will cut a shape out and say, 'OK, now you paste it up.' Arnold and I are true collaborators. I think that's something we've learned from each other over the years." ▼

*Persona Grata Productions' Brave New Whirl opens at the Magic Theatre on Aug. 22. The show runs through Sept. 1. For tickets, phone 441-8822.*

perfectly aimed at the tired businessman? There he sat, identifying with the licentious exploits of the onstage executives, his deceived wife next to him nodding comiserately with the onstage women.

Even better, the usual first act ballad in which the hero realizes his love is replaced in *Promises* by an ode to basketball — complete with Basketball Ballet. Yes, the character's intended likes the sport, but more importantly, that businessman in the third row is more entertained by basketball than by love songs.

*Promises, Promises* is shrewdly put together all right, calculated all the way down the line by experts to appeal to its audience. Which it did at Chabot College: the heterosexual audience laughed and applauded. I was in need of an injection.

Despite the exuberant Michael Bennett-style opening

and closing (as well as a Fosse routine) provided by the choreographer, and a really big playing style provided by the director and robustly fulfilled by his cast (including the excellent John Nockels, Stephan McClaine and Ted McCann), I still found *Promises, Promises* meretricious and venal. ▼

**Promises, Promises**  
Chabot College, thru Aug. 26  
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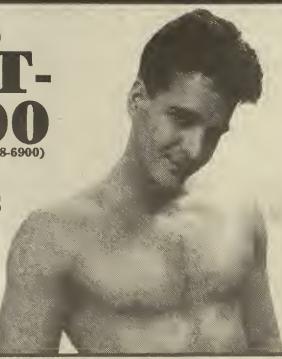
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# JAPANTOWN BOWL

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## HAWAII VACATION LEAGUE

IT'S BACK! The very popular Hawaii Vacation League is back, only this time it's on another night, Mondays at 8:45 p.m. The season ends with an 8-day, 7-night vacation in Waikiki. Hawaii trip will be the 1st or 2nd week in June. EVERYONE IN THE LEAGUE GOES ON THE HAWAII TRIP, NOT JUST THE 1ST PLACE TEAM, EVERYONE GOES. League starts August 20 — will bowl 36 weeks — cost is \$22.50 per person per week (includes Hawaii Trip) — Teams are composed of 5 persons. THIS LEAGUE FILLS FAST SO SIGN UP EARLY!!!

## LAS VEGAS HOLIDAY LEAGUE

A TRIP TO FABULOUS LAS VEGAS AT THE END OF THE SEASON, VISIT THE NEW EXCALIBUR AND MIRAGE. We will leave SFO on a Friday in the morning and return on Sunday in the evening. Same as the Hawaii League, everyone goes on the Vegas trip, everyone. Cost for this league is \$14.00 per person per week (includes the Las Vegas Trip). League bowls on Mondays at 8:45 p.m. — Teams are composed of 5 persons — League starts on August 20.

## MONDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

THIS IS THE LONGEST RUNNING GAY BOWLING LEAGUE IN SAN FRANCISCO. League will start bowling on August 20 — Teams are 5 persons — cost is \$8.50 per person per week — League bowls on Mondays at 8:45 p.m.

## TUESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

EASILY THE LARGEST LEAGUE BOWLING AT JAPANTOWN. Every season we have 20 teams strong so if you want to get in on this action you will have to sign up early or you will be left out. League bowls at 8:45 p.m. — 5 person teams — League starts on September 25 — cost is \$9.50 per person per week.

## WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

THIS LEAGUE IS PROBABLY THE MOST COMPETITIVE LEAGUE AT JAPANTOWN BUT SOME SAY THE MOST FUN ALSO. League will start on September 19 — League bowls at 8:45 p.m. — cost is \$9.00 per person per week — 5 bowlers to a team. GET SOME FRIENDS TOGETHER, FORM A TEAM AND COME ON DOWN.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON COMMUNITY LEAGUE

THIS IS THE LEAGUE ALL THE BARTENDERS, SWING SHIFT WORKERS AND DAYTIME FUN LOVERS BOWL IN. League will start play on September 6 — League bowls at 1:00 p.m. (in the afternoon) — 3 bowlers to a team — cost is \$7.50 per person.

## FRIDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

THIS LEAGUE STARTED LAST YEAR AND WAS A HUGE SUCCESS. It's the only Gay league that bowls 14 weeks and is 100% handicap. This summer it's 20 teams and we expect the same for the short fall season. League bowls at 6:15 p.m. — 3 bowlers to a team — cost is \$9.00 — Starts play on September 28.

## SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY GAY RENO LEAGUE IN SF. This league culminates in a great fun 3 day weekend in Reno sometime in May or June. Like the Vegas and Hawaii leagues, everyone in the league goes to Reno. League starts on October 7 — cost is \$12.50 per person per week (includes Reno trip) 4 bowlers to a team — bowls Sundays at 6:00 p.m.

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A GOOD BOWLER OR AN EXPERIENCED BOWLER TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF THESE LEAGUES — THE ONLY REQUIREMENT IS THAT YOU WANT TO HAVE A GOOD TIME!**

TO JOIN CONTACT:

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# THIS



• Bay Area feminists Starhawk (above), Luisah Teisch and filmmaker Donna Read will appear at the Roxie and Forest Books, 3080 16th St., Valencia, from 12-6 p.m.

## FILM

• *The Goddess Remembered and Adam's World*: Films by Donna Read. *Goddess* traces the history of the ancient and powerful Goddess civilizations. *Adam's World* reflects on the connection between the global environmental crisis and the patriarchal system. Both films on Aug. 19 at 1:20, 4, 5:30, 7, 8:30 & 10 p.m. Sneak preview of Read's new film, *The Burning Times*, which examines the era that burned women as witches at 11 a.m. Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St., SF. 431-3611.

## MUSIC

• *Golden Gate Men's Chorus*: "Made in America," an offering of classical, modern & folk American classics. Aug. 16-18 at 8 p.m.; Aug. 20 at 2:30 p.m. \$12. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. 626-2883.

## THEATRE

• *Madame Colette Speaks of Love*: A monologue by Jean Cartwright that evokes the spirit of the French author Colette (1873-1954) — a daring woman ahead of her time. Aug. 18 at 8 p.m. \$2. EXITheatre, 366 Eddy, SF. 673-3847.

• *Blood Moon*: Nicholas Kazan's thrilling, violent, modern epic tragedy of society's betrayal of women. Thru Sept. 1, plays Fri.-Sat. at 8 p.m. Aug. 17 & 18 shows benefit Men Who Care About Women's Lives. Next Stage, 1668 Bush/Gough, SF. 681-6245.

## DANCE PARTY

• 2nd Annual "A Brief Affair for AIDS": An underwear party where you're invited to shed your clothes and get comfortable along with the staff (clothes check available). \$100 prize for hottest person in underwear. Videos, fashion show and dancing models! All tips donated to AIDS Emergency Fund. Aug. 19 from 3 p.m. till closing. Free w/tea dance pass, \$5 gen. I-Beam, 1748 Haight, SF. 668-6023.

## COUNCIL OF GRAND DUKES AND DUCHESSSES OF SF

• *Presentation of Grand Duke & Duchess Candidates*: View the candidates Aug. 18 at 6 p.m. \$8. Service Union Hall, 240 Golden Gate Ave., 3rd floor, SF. Also All Candidates Night on Aug. 22 at 8 p.m. at Aunt Charlie's, 133 Turk, SF.



• *In Solitude*, 1990, Robert Roginski, watercolor and ink, 30" x 36".

## ART

• SF Artists Robert Roginski & R.S. Connell: "Recent Works on Paper." On view thru Sept. 9, Wed.-Sat., 12-7 p.m.; Sun. 12-6 p.m. Reception Aug. 18, 7:30-10 p.m. Art Lick Gallery, 4147 19th St. off Castro, SF. 621-5131.

• Dexter Smith: "Legends and Lunatics," 16 *Classic Pop Art Grand Style* paintings on view thru Sept. Reception Aug. 17, 5-8 p.m. Castro Country Club, 4058 18th St., SF. Chris, 285-0612.

# FRIDAY 17

- I-Beam: Fungo Mungo, Smokin' Rhythm Prawns, Bluchunks. 10 p.m. Free. 1748 Haight, SF. 668-6023.
- El Rio: Happy hour 5-8 p.m. with DJ Carlos Grant. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. with DJ Elton Brown. No cover. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.
- Club Q: Dancing for women on Fridays. 9 p.m. Cover. At the Kennel Club/Box, 628 Divisadero/Hayes, SF. 244-1117.

• Amelia's: My First Wife, live entertainment for groovin' gals! 647 Valencia, SF. 552-7788.

• Eagle Creek Saloon: Leo Party at 8 p.m. Food, entertainment, dancing with DJ Jacques. Open all week. 1884 Market/Laguna, SF. 863-3323.

• Bench & Bar: A truly homemade show featuring the B&B Bad Boys stripping, singing, dancing, etc. 9 p.m. sharp. 120 11th St., Oakland. 444-2266.

• *Savage in Limbo*: Broads Off Broadway in John Patrick Shanley's one-act play in which the players bare their souls to the avail of nothing or no one. Thru Sept. 2, plays Fri.-Sun. at 8 p.m. \$5-7. Miz Brown's Backroom, 2565 Mission/21st St., SF. 387-7209.

• *Dirty Dreams of a Clean-Cut Kid*: The long-running musical about men, love, sex, anxiety & hope ends it's extended run Aug. 18. Plays Thu.-Sat. at 8 p.m. \$11-15. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., SF. 861-5079.

• Components of Ballroom/Latin Dancing for Lesbians & Gay Men: 4-week course to learn the basics of same-sex partner dancing. Aug. 17-Sept. 7. Level I (starters): 8:15-10 p.m. Level II: 6:45-8:30 p.m. \$40 adv., \$45 on Sims Center, Suite 1, 1519 Mission/11th St., SF. Call Gene, 775-5732; hotline 995-4736.



• *Del Rubio Triplets at Atlas*: (Left to right) Let Milly, Elena and Eadie serenade you. DJ Doc Martin. Aug. 17, 9:30 p.m.-3 a.m. \$8. 715 Harrison/3rd St., SF. 978-9448.

# SATURDAY 18

• *Colossus*: Saturday double decker after hours dancing to House & '70s music with DJs Hosh Gureli & Jerry Bonham. 9:30 p.m. \$10, 21+ w/lid. 1015 Folsom, SF. 431-BOYS.

• *EVOL*—the other side: Weekly nightclub for women who like to experience the adventurous side of SF nightlife. 9 p.m. 496 14th St./Guerrero, SF. 861-9085.

• *Gay/Lesbian Summer Dance at Stanford*: 9 p.m. at wheelchair accessible Elliott Program Center, Governor's Corner Dorm Complex, on Santa Theresa near Campus Dr. West, Stanford. \$3. 725-4222.

• *Mujerio Cultural Benefit for Women*: A latina lesbian cultural festival of music, dance & poetry for women. 7-10 p.m. \$5-10. American Indian Center, 225 Valencia, SF. 658-7135. 626-1308.

• *Minoru Yata & Friends*: A visual & performing arts event representing the new SF art scene with Winston Tong, Buru dancing, poetry, music, drumming. 12 p.m.-12 a.m. \$5. Folcrom Gallery, 451 Haight, SF. 621-4810.

• *Bay Area Career Women Country/Western Dance*: Enjoy live C/W band, hors 'd'oeuvres, no-host bar. Men welcome, \$25 adv., \$30. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin, SF. Call 495-5393.

• *'Mondo Vaudeville '90'*: An evening of raunchy, uninhibited performance, stand up comedy, skits, music with Elisa DeCarlo and Howard Stone. 8:30 p.m. \$3-8. 509 Cultural Center, 509 Ellis, SF. 346-1308.

• *BRAVA! For Women in the Arts One-Day Workshops*: Producing Your Own Performances by Amy Mueller, Aug. 18, 1-5 p.m., \$40. Non-Profit Fundraising for Artists by Ellen Gavin, Aug. 25, 1-5 p.m., \$60. Both for \$90. Brava!, 2180 Bryant/20th St., Suite 3, SF. 641-7657.

• *Men's Associated Exchange Rummage Sale*: Benefits Coming Home Hospice. 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Most Holy Redeemer Church parking lot, Diamond & 18th St., SF. Mark, 255-2455.

• *Men of All Colors Together*: MACT/BWMT AIDS Task Force Safer Sex Playshop. 6:30-9:30 p.m. 1350 Waller near Masonic, SF. Sylvester, 474-5905.

• *Gay & Lesbian Hortiphiles*: Guided tour of Grace Merchant Gardens by Friends of the Urban Forest's Lynn Galia. Meet at 10:30 a.m. at Information Kiosk, SF's Levi Strauss Plaza. Potluck picnic & plant auction. Guests welcome. Michael, 826-2515, or Henrietta, (408) 244-1117.

# S WEEK

## SUNDAY 19

- I-Beam: Sunday T-dance. 5 p.m.-2 a.m. \$4, \$3 w/pass. 1748 Haight, SF. 668-6023.
- Pleasuredome: Sundays at SF's largest gay dance club. Free before 8 p.m. 177 Townsend/3rd St., SF. 974-1156.
- Club Uranus: Wild adventures with DJs Mike & Lewis. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. \$4. 401 Harrison/6th St., SF.
- El Rio: Orquesta Guyacan. 4-8 p.m. \$7. 3158 Mission, SF. 282-3325.
- Bench & Bar: Wet Jockey shorts contest with cash prizes at 10 p.m., preceded by CW dancing, chili & hot dogs at 7 p.m. 120 11th St., Oakland. 444-2266.
- Rounds: Entertainment by singing hostess Cynthia Bythell, The Girls Next Door and Bob Visini. 8 p.m. \$7 cover/2-drink min. 510 Larkin, SF. 441-4007.
- A Different Light: Author Linda Neimann, *Boomer*, tells tales of her life as a railway brakewoman. 7:30 p.m. 489 Castro, SF. 431-0891.
- Uniting the World Through Poetry: The Natl. Poetry Assn presents the poetry of South Africa. 7:30 p.m. \$2. Ft. Mason Center, Bldg. D, Rm. 270, 2nd floor, SF. 776-6602.
- Dealing With Violent Behavior' Workshop: A non-intimidating self-defense program for the average citizen that covers many issues. Aug. 19 & 26, 1-5 p.m. \$50 for two sessions. Academy of Tae Kwon Do, 988 Oak/Scott, SF. 864-4827.
- Worship & Praise Service: Guest Dr. Sally Gearhart. 7 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF.
- G40 Plus Club: Guest renaissance lesbian Kate Bornstein. 2-4 p.m. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin, SF. 552-1997.
- Gay Voyagers: Social group for gay men interested in foreign travel. 4-6 p.m. at the gay synagogue at Caselli & Danvers, SF. Alan, 558-8828.
- SF Hiking Club: Mt. Tamalpais 6.5-mi. Hike. Meet at 9:45 a.m. under big Safeway sign, Market & Dolores, SF. \$5 split among carpoolers. Bring lunch, water, sunscreen. Rain cancels. Jim, 285-3760.



## MONDAY 20

- I-Beam: Those Darn Accordians, guest TBA. 10 p.m. Free. 1748 Haight, SF. 668-6023.
- Writers Workshop for Women Over 50: Mondays, 7-9 p.m., at Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF. GLOE, 626-7000.
- SF Jacks: Alpine Night—Climb that Materhorn! Arrive 7:30-8:30 p.m. \$6. 543-3433.

## TUESDAY 21

- I-Beam: Transister Sister, The Gargoyles. 10 p.m. Free. 1748 Haight, SF. 668-6023.
- D.J.'s Piano Bar: Happy Hour with Tony. 4-7 p.m. Piano bar with Garth Steen at 9 p.m. 1535 Olympic Blvd., Walnut Creek. 930-0300.
- Gay & Lesbian Sierrans: Meeting focuses on Wetlands preservation. Slide show & refreshments. 7:30 p.m. Free. 4th floor library of Sierra Club Natl. Office, 730 Polk/ Ellis, SF.
- Duplicate Bridge Game: Limited to newer players. 7 p.m. Quicktricks Bridge Club. MCC, 150 Eureka, SF. 285-5155.

## WEDNESDAY 22

- Intermission: Announcing the opening of a new alternative dance space on Wednesdays. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$2. 1484 Market/Van Ness, SF.
- Female Trouble: Lesbian Snake Charmers, aka j.j. noire. Wednesdays, 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$2-3. 1821 Haight, SF.
- El Rio: Comics Marga Gomez, Tom Ammiano, Mari Shine. 9 p.m. \$5. 3158 Mission. 282-3325.
- I-Beam: Penelope Houston, Capture the Flag, The Posies. 10 p.m. Free. 1748 Haight, SF. 668-6023.
- Brain Wash: For dinner, laundry, entertainment. Wednesday Night Live features The Sarnos. 8-10 p.m. No cover. 1122 Folsom, SF. 861-FOOD or 431-WASH.
- Poetry Slam! Competition: Weekly Slam! poetry competitions on Wednesdays thru Oct. 3. 7:30-10 p.m. \$3. Rumor's Cafe, Kearny & Broadway, SF. Contestants call 776-6602.
- Writers Workshop for Older Writers: For gay men & lesbians aged 50+ of all experience levels. 7-9 p.m. Operation Concern, 1853 Market, SF. 626-7000.
- Womentalk—Discussion Group for Older Lesbians: Topic—The Passionate Life: Making Friends & New Connections. 2:15 p.m. North of Market Senior Center, 333 Turk, SF. 626-7000.
- Queer Nation: A new gay/lesbian direct action group fighting discrimination, misinformation and violence against homosexuals through visibility and community outreach meets Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. Women's Bldg., 3543 18th St. Guerrero, SF.

## THURSDAY 23

- Tre's Cafe & Bar: Thank God It's Thursday gay night! Live entertainment & dancing. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover. 1 Embarcadero Center, SF. 397-8799.
- Chaos: Music, videos, lust! DJs Mike & Lewis spin Industrial, New Beat, Rap, Thursdays, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. \$1. Crystal Pistol, 842 Valencia/19th St., SF.
- El Rio: Cocktail Party with comic Josh Kornbluth, female impersonator Sister Woman, exotic dancer Kathleen Ward and DJ Carlos Grant. Free. 3158 Mission, SF. 282-3325.
- 'N Touch Bar: Thursday male strippers with emcee Desiree at 10:30 p.m. \$1 before 11 p.m. 1548 Polk, SF.
- The Box: A dance club for gay men and women together every Thursday (and Saturday) with Mistress Page Hodel. 9 p.m. \$4-5. 628 Divisadero/Hayes, SF.
- A Different Light: Open forum discussion with the folks from Nine Muses Press in back patio. 7:30 p.m. 489 Castro, SF. 431-0891.
- Cody's Books: Thomas Geller, editor of *Bisexuality: A Reader and Sourcebook*, at 8 p.m. 2454 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. 845-7852.
- Sexual Politics: Vista Community College course examines the American gay movement. Enroll through Aug. 31. \$15. Call 841-8431.
- Men's Friendship Group: Meets 2:45-4 p.m. at 711 Eddy, SF. Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders, 626-7000.
- Rainbow's End Youth Group: For lesbian/gay/bisexual youth ages 14-21. Drop-in time 6:30-7 p.m. Group time 7-9 p.m. Ministry of Light office, 1000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Suite 12, San Anselmo. 457-1115.
- Gay Men's Sketch Does the Castro: Drop-in male nude figure drawing for all skill levels. Erick Sweet models. 7-10 p.m. \$12. MCC, 150 Eureka, Rm. 205, SF. 621-6294.

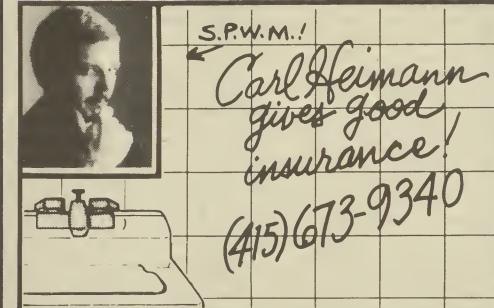


- Stand-Up Tragedy: Bill Cain's play of an idealistic, Anglo teacher (Jack Coleman, right) who struggles to inspire a troubled youth (Marcus Chong, left) from New York's Lower East Side. Thru Sept. 16, plays Tue.-Sat. at 8 p.m.; Wed., Sat., Sun. at 2 p.m. \$22-34. Marines' Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter, SF. 243-9001.

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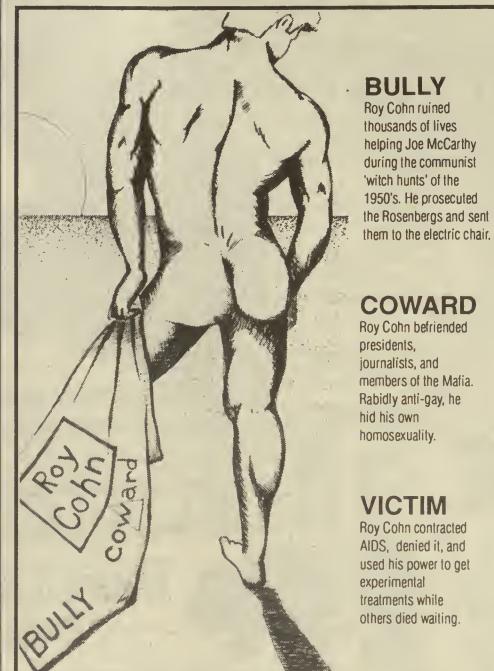


## Closes This Weekend! DIRTY DREAMS OF A CLEAN-CUT KID



by Henry Mach  
music by Paul Katz  
directed by  
John Karr  
& Allen Sawyer  
Extended thru  
August 18  
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"Rousing and tender... both cheers and chokes you up." (SF Chronicle)  
"The 26 songs are first rate — romantic, funny, charming and downright randy. An upbeat show!" (Bay Times)



**BULLY**  
Roy Cohn ruined thousands of lives helping Joe McCarthy during the communist 'witch hunts' of the 1950's. He prosecuted the Rosenbergs and sent them to the electric chair.

**COWARD**  
Roy Cohn befriended presidents, journalists, and members of the Mafia. Rabidly anti-gay, he hid his own homosexuality.

**VICTIM**  
Roy Cohn contracted AIDS, denied it, and used his power to get experimental treatments while others died waiting.

**ROY**  
by Joel Ensana  
directed by Ed Decker

September 8 - October 13, Wed - Sun, 8:00 p.m.

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## FILM

Joel Schumacher's 'Flatliners'

# A Plunge into Darkness

by Warren Sonbert

**F**latliners, an inverse reworking of the Frankenstein legend, ushering people to the dead instead of constructing people from the dead, is a surprisingly gripping see.

Five medical students (though with Keifer Sutherland, Billy Baldwin, Kevin Bacon, Julia Roberts and Oliver Platt, it's more like the Young Guns in Dr. Kildare drag) conduct "ungodly" life-to-death-back-to-life experiments in a Northwestern University Gothic lab the size of Kezar Stadium during a Halloween weekend.

Rest easy as to their ethics. No grave-robbing tactics are necessary here; they do it to themselves, the little buggers, though they do have their daytime autopsy cadavers for nose to the gallstone practice if need be. The return ticket kicker is that their guilty sins from the past, people they've been mean to or insulted or offended, haunted them to no end. See, I told you being dead is no fun.

### Apologies Necessary

To get these pests off their backs, they have to stoop as low as apologies; in this movie being dead means hav-

ing to say you're sorry. Without giving away too much more, let it be revealed that violence is minimally doled out and that this is actually a big budget blockbuster with real characters and not an exploding machine in sight.

Unfortunately, Joel Schumacher is the director. Although he knows his Ridley Scott smoke, Ken Russell hallucinations and David Cronenberg brood killers, he's not in a class with any of them.

One regrets that the numerous fantasy sequences pale beside those in *Altered States*; the ones here are closer to *The Sound of Music* helicopter swirls around gorgeous landscapes. That's what the filmmakers believe the ecstatic heights of death hold in store: a Subaru TV ad.

### Touches Abound

Even though this aspect of the film is dispiritingly banal, touches abound here and there that must spring from some more creative force: probably the inventive premise of Peter Filardi's screenplay or Eugenio Zanetti's dazzling production design.

Sutherland walks across a rain-drenched midnight street to confront out of literally nowhere the whiz and

whoosh of a bevy of professional race bicyclists. The walls of a Chinatown slum transform into eerie threatening tableaux with the flick of an eye.

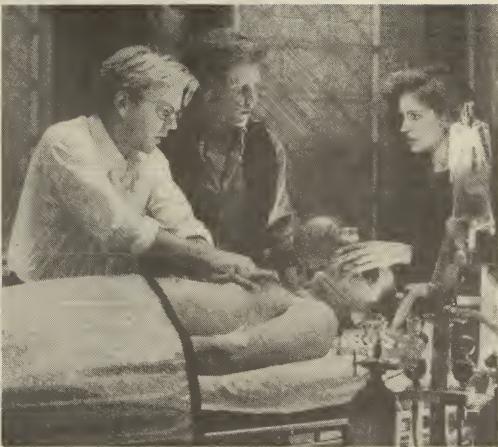
The general aura of the film, thanks in no small part to Jan de Bont's hypnotic cinematography, is somehow timeless, surreal and wrenchingly pessimistic. Again a shrug of sorrow that Cronenberg wasn't enlisted in carrying matters even further into despair.

### Killer Kiddies

In that Canadian master's *The Brood*, parka-hooded tykes turn into vicious marauding killers just as in *Flatliners*. Now some civic virtue type journalists are getting on a high horse on this trend furthered recently as well in *RoboCop II*. But I think it's great.

Why is the supposed morality of all children such a sacred cow? Is that truly a given of life? And isn't this film's (and much of Cronenberg's work) DC Comics' *Inner Sanctum* punch and power traceable to this very unthinkable horror aligned to the prosaic quotidian?

That the Brat Pack would jump aboard such a negative starship is in itself a cause for wonder. Thanks to the color-



Trying to revive patient following a life-after-death experience in *Flatliners*.

less direction, there are no pinnacles of shock and suspense as in *Arachnophobia*, but there are also no lows encountered, as there were in that hit of this summer, *Ghost*. In sum, *Flatliners* is still

an intriguing plunge into the soul's darkness. ▼

**Flatliners**  
Cinema 21  
921-6720

# Misguided 'Metro'

by Warren Sonbert

The story traces the decorous antics of a batch of rich, spoiled and mostly hollow young debbs and their swains, earnestly endeavoring to be dissolute during Christmas "coming out"/"orgy" week in New York.

There is a somewhat less affluent hero/identity figure whose shifting allegiances between a glamour puss and a

(Continued on page 60)

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**CHRISTOPHER RAGE'S  
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Intense! Nine horny guys including favorites sluttish Chi Burns, blond James Silver and sleazy muscleman Rocco, along with sizzling discovery Michael Bolen. Someone for everyone, and they do something for everyone! Catheters, plenty of dildo action, sucking, spanking, strapping, slapping. Sanan bondage (a must-see) and a hot newcomer nibbling on his own foreskin.

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**Butthole Banquet II**  
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**HOT TANNED STUDENT WANTED** as live-in friend, companion, cook, sex slave, houseboy, chauffeur, masseur, pool-boy, top-man. You: 18-25, industrious, romantic, intelligent, lover of hiking. Me: 37, prof., HIV+, into hot time together. Let's talk. EXT 3198

**FATHER FIGURE WANTED** Cute, smart GWM, 25s prof. GWM, 30-35, for fun conversation, travel, etc. EXT 3197

**YOUNG TOPS** 20-30, hot sex, all scenes. You thin, smooth and dominant. Me: 35, slim, smooth, 5'10", 160 lbs. GDLKG, hairy, G/A, F/P looking for great sex, maybe more. Healthy HIV+. EXT 3192

**GBM, 31, CLEAN CUT, NS** attractive, like the gym, swimming, beach. Looking for friend and/or date. EXT 3182

**EAST HOT TAN BLONDE**, 45, seeks top. need discipline and dirty talk, deep probing. Fantasy sex A+. EXT 3183

**HOT LATINO** looking for other hot men, muscular and masculine. I am 31, 6'1", 195 lbs. muscular handsome and intelligent. EXT 3184

**BIGMAN, 5'11", 260 lbs** Ex drag queen will dress up for you. Fantasize and seek my pleasure. Prefer black and latex men. Hot sale sex! EXT 3168

**ATTRACTIVE GWM, 5'6", 160 lbs., 50, (HIV-)** prof. sail, swim love outdoors symphony and backgammon, seeks 32-52 man. Live in SF. EXT 3169

**IF YOU ARE 35-40 and enjoy athletic man** b/m/bu, young 59, 150 lbs, to have fun and more, then I am the perfect escort for the right date. EXT 3170

**TALL EAST BAY GUY**, mid 20's mustache, blue eyes, wants man under 35 to initiate him in joys of gay sex. EXT 3171

**ATTRACTIVE, HEALTHY, GAM, 26, 5'8", 145 lb** STR-Aging GWM 22-35 for fun, friendship and possible relationship. EXT 3154

**MASCULINE, ATTRACTIVE, HEALTHY, GAM** (San Jose): 37, b/w, 5'8", 155 lbs, clean, sober, horny, HIV+. Hi-Tech prof. seeks masculine men 40+. EXT 3155

**IF YOU HAVE LARGER THAN AVERAGE** or very muscular legs, I am interested in hearing from you. Race or color not important. EXT 3156

**WE ARE 24/25 yrs GWM cpl. very good looking & fit. 5'11", 160", 165" seeking other similar cpls or singles, jo, xxx video etc! Ideas? New to area. EXT 3129**

**ATTRACTIVE UNCUT LATIN** Looking for uncut men into foreskin and jockey-underwear. Uncut only please. EXT 3130

**YOUNG GAY COUPLE (W/A)** seeks goodlooking HIV-. GWM 18-26, for friendship/safe fun. No strings. EXT 3131

**MAN OF DEPTH**, Therapist, spiritual, adventurous, attractive 30, 5'7", 125# bearded. You ugly and stupid! EXT 3124

**VERSATILE GM, 36, 5'8", 140 lbs, attractive, smooth, toned, healthy, HIV+**, seeks trim topman for casual conversation and/or creative sex. EXT 3087

**SEXY ROMANTIC BLOND GM** 47, 6', 170 trim, well-proportioned, healthy, HIV+. Seeking masc. guy, fun & sophisticated for stimulating encounters. EXT 3088

**ATHLETIC, COLLEAGUE, attractive white male, 6'1", 25, b/m/bu, 175, sks str-acting Asian guy 18-27. EXT 3090**

**HOT GWM, 42, 5'9", 160, 71/2 X, 51/4, masc, nice-lkg & NS** wants to sleep with you & kiss, run & pump you all night. EXT 3091

**HOT ASIAN & GWM** looking for a 3rd partner for clean safe fun. EXT 3092

**MIND+MUSCLE+** unconventional, non-clone, GWM 30, 5'11", solid 150. Sincerely masculine, very good-looking. Seeks 25-30 well-built intellect. EXT 3004

**EVER READY** 30 yr 6' 170lb WM bottom with deep throat will service WM only with 7' or better 18-37. Satisfaction with virgin. No fats or fems, non-smokers a plus. EXT 3055

**ASS MASSAGE**: cute GWM, 39, 5'5", 200. Into light spanking and assplay You prefer GWM. 21-40 yrs who will regret it! Call now! EXT 3008

**VERY GDLKG 21, yo** BIAM looking to meet a strg WM who is also going, athletic, and into oral & yo. EXT 3134

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**TALL MASCULINE GWM, 38,** seeks good looking guys. 25-35 yrs with their act together for friendship and more. EXT 3206

**WE ARE VERSATILE SEXUALLY** intense guys, 25-35 yrs., into long, hot, steamy sessions, interactive and serious about it. EXT 3207

**GWM, 30, 5'10", 165 lbs., top, seeks sincere, attractive GWM, 30-40 yrs., to enjoy good times. One-nighters need not to respond. EXT 3208**

**ATTRACTIVE 30 Y.O. BOTTOM,** 145 lbs, brown hair, mustache, smooth, tight, is looking for 9' + of hard, thk. c-ck. My butt needs hot action. EXT 3209

**I AM ATTRACTIVE BUT YET DATELESS!** To You, interested! EXT 3210

**HEFTY GWM** seeks chunky GWM 40 plus rish. Stat-me, 27, 5'10", 230#. You: 35-7, 5'9", or taller, 190#, bld, hairy+, lite eyes + dk hair. EXT 3062

**ATTRACTIVE GWM, 25, 6'2", 170#, bml, brn mustache desires GWM 20-40, neat, intelligent, versatile, prof., to spend quality time with and poss. male. EXT 3066**

**W/M SLAVE** seeks master. FR/GR, B/D, W/S? You call the shots sir. EXT 3140

**ROMANTIC HUNK,** GWM, 30, 6', 180, great body, great face. Looking for similar for fun dates. Are you cute? EXT 3141

**MIDWESTERN SINCERITY,** masculine, bearded professional 32, 6'3", 180, discovering the pleasures of being a bottom. HIV+, safe, only. EXT 3142

**INDEPENDENT GWM** wanted by same/Sonoma cty. I'm mid 40's, hdsme, prof, HIV-. You: 35-50, masc, hdsme, prof, romantic, spiritual. HIV. No drugs, booze. EXT 3077

**GWM, 42, 5'8", 145#, stache, hunky super fit HIV+, sks other gay men into safe wild sex. Greek and French. EXT 3122**

**ATTRACTIVE GWM** 31, 5'9", 145#, bml, clean-cut, Asian for romance, relationship, interests swimming, hiking, dancing. EXT 3121

**SUGAR DADDY WANTED.** Young, smooth, college, cute boy-next-door type seeks wealthy man for a win-win arrangement. EXT 3013

**EAST BAY BOY,** 23yo 5'9", 148, cute & straight acting seek buddies near my size & age. I like to bike ride, tennis, wrestling, hot tubs, etc. Prefer white or Latin guys. EXT 3112

**GWM** 40 want to meet GWM 40-45 for friendship, possible relationship. Am 5'11", 180 lbs. I like quiet times, safe sex. No drugs. EXT 3113

**CUTE ASIANS/LATINOS!** Chunky Exec, GWM, 29 weeks romantic sex buddy for fun evenings, weekends. Don't be shy. EXT 3114

**SEEKING SEX AND LOVE.** Tall handsome, moust, 32, sks other tall HIV+, hairy muste for grt sex & times. Poss rel. EXT 3115

**ATHR** GWM 5'6", 160 lbs, dark swimmer 40 yo HIV+. Prof, romantic, outdoors & horns activities, live Mam wood. Seek ythful & similar. EXT 3116

**BONDAGE? LEATHER?** Novice bottom, handsome, 35, very trainable needs handsome hot top any race to warm my butt. EXT 3118

**ATTRACTIVE GWM,** 31, 5'11", 170#, bml/blu. Handsome, 36, sks my GAM equal 26-32 for friendship or romance. EXT 3119

**ATHLETE,** GWM, collegiate, HASM., 6', Dk.Hr, Bl., Vers. Sks tall STR acting Prof Athlete 25-40 for fun and friendship. EXT 3153

**SUGAR DADDY,** GWM, 40 yr old, looking for hot young boner. Let me lick and suck your hairless body. EXT 3152

**WRESTLING BEAR WANTED!** by same. Hot hairy sweaty for hot sweaty get togethers. EXT 3151

**HOT GWM,** 32, 6', 175 lbs. into leather bondage, toys. CBT experimenting. Will submit to hot dominant tops. EXT 3150

**HAPPY-HEALTHY-HORNY!** Interesting, secure, friendly, cuddly, oral guy seeks same for dates, possible relationship. I am 6'1", 180 lbs, short hair, short beard (removable), varied interests, HIV+, with weakness for cleanshaven or short-bearded guys in their 30's. EXT 3148

**MASSAGE!** GAM, 38, 145 lbs, 5'8" seeks to exchange massage & or friendship with honest, responsible GM. EXT 3147

## ADS ARE PUBLISHED FREE

BLOND GREEN EYES 155 lbs 5'10": vers, very handsome. I enjoy tennis, dining out, movies, &amp; being w/a handsome, masc, man. EXT 3099

SPIRITAL MAN seeks risk-taking guy for growth and play. I attractively non-gym-toned body. Hwy. 57, beard, age 30. You? EXT 3053

GWM SEEKS EROTIC ENCOUNTERS with Asian man. I am blonde, 40, 5'11", 175 lbs. clean, healthy and eager to please and be pleased. EXT 3174

BOY-SLAVE desires Master(s), desires to be trained for bondage, humiliation and real life servitude. EXT 3175

BLACK DAD? Muscled white boy, 35, will orally service. I need my throat stretched, V/A, padding, used been. EXT 3176

GWM, 190 LBS, competition type, bodybuilder, artist, bright, affectionate, monogamous seeks similar GWM. EXT 3177

WANTED: TOTAL SLAVE. Two bear type masters seek submissuve dog-slave to use/abuse. Call Sirs at 3107

SIR/GM, 34, 5'10", muscular, 175#, needs to serve you, your ck, balls, boots, pts/etc. While you give CBT, TT, SM, BD. EXT 3146

GAM SEEK GWM for fun, friendship &amp; more. I'm 26, 5'8", 145 lbs handsome, clean cut, in good shape. You: similar under 38. EXT 3145

MEDITERRANEAN. Fall 90, GM 31 yrs, on a budget seeks trvl comp. 21-41 yrs. No drugs/booze. Some trekking involved. Flexible on itinerary &amp; length of stay. Maybe Adrae and Aegean. EXT 3109

HOT DREDHEAD, 32, 5'7", 140 prof, creative and sensitive wants to meet guys under 5'9" with dark hair and light eyes. EXT 3106

DEEP THROATED boy wanted by hung, masculine &amp; affectionate 42. Come eat a good hearty meal-slowly. EXT 3068

CUTE ASIANS/LATINOS! Chunky Exec, GWM, 29 weeks romantic sex buddy for fun evenings, weekends. Don't be shy. EXT 3114

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BONDAGE? LEATHER? Novice bottom, handsome, 35, very trainable needs handsome hot top any race to warm my butt. EXT 3118

ATTRACTIVE GWM, 31, 5'11", 170#, bml/blu. Handsome, 36, sks my GAM equal 26-32 for friendship or romance. EXT 3119

ATHLETE, GWM, collegiate, HASM., 6', Dk.Hr, Bl., Vers. Sks tall STR acting Prof Athlete 25-40 for fun and friendship. EXT 3153

SUGAR DADDY, GWM, 40 yr old, looking for hot young boner. Let me lick and suck your hairless body. EXT 3152

WRESTLING BEAR WANTED! by same. Hot hairy sweaty for hot sweaty get togethers. EXT 3151

HOT GWM, 32, 6', 175 lbs. into leather bondage, toys. CBT experimenting. Will submit to hot dominant tops. EXT 3150

HAPPY-HEALTHY-HORNY! Interesting, secure, friendly, cuddly, oral guy seeks same for dates, possible relationship. I am 6'1", 180 lbs, short hair, short beard (removable), varied interests, HIV+, with weakness for cleanshaven or short-bearded guys in their 30's. EXT 3148

MASSAGE! GAM, 38, 145 lbs, 5'8" seeks to exchange massage &amp; or friendship with honest, responsible GM. EXT 3147

MAIL TO: SF AREA DIALOGUE, SUITE 511, 1230 MARKET ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94102 PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.

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SF AREA DIALOGUE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO EDIT OR REJECT ANY AD GAY OWNED AND OPERATED		

# Beat

(Continued from page 37)

(The Ecology)," (4:12), no credits. Lately, so many new artists have been doing remakes that it's left a bad taste in our mouth. Most of the remakes have only shown that these new artists have no talent and no style. They must rely on proven successes to nudge their way into the music scene, yet they evidence no respect for the hard work of the original performer.

And then there's Milira — and our faith in real talent is



Glenn Medeiros

restored. Not only does she update this Marvin Gaye classic with style, but her video pays loving homage to Marvin with various clips from

his early performances. There are also clips of the late Sarah Vaughn interspersed with scenes of Milira at the Apollo Theatre in Harlem.

Glenn Medeiros, "She Ain't Worth It" (3:35), no credits. Already topping the charts, the Island Boy's dance hit translates just as well on video. Shot from behind the sound stage props in the ever-popular pan-and-scan format (a lot of tripods collecting dust out there) and switching back and forth from color to black and white, this video features Medeiros and his female troopers hoofing their way through dance nirvana.



Adeva

Visiting the set to lend a hand with the *de rigueur* rap is label mate Bobby Brown and his continuing need to flash his flesh.

**MC Trouble**, "I Wanna Make You Mine," (4:01), no credits. A new female rapper with a formidable style who will certainly be laying claim to a big stake of the rap territory. On this video she plays tug of war with fellow recording artists The Good Girls in an attempt to win over the heart of a young man.

## The Rear View

Ten years ago this week, "Magic" by Olivia Newton-John was the No. 1 single across the nation. Twenty years ago this week, Bread had the No. 1 single with "Make It With You." ▼

# B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

## People

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Fiesta, Harlequin, Bauer, Riviera, Luray, Russel Wright. 1,500 pieces. Mint condition. Schedule a visit or dial for mail order. BURT 558-8882

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Ball Sucker 431-2188 E35

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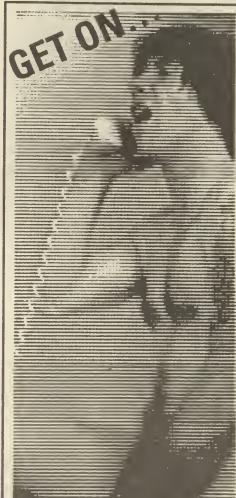
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# B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

## People

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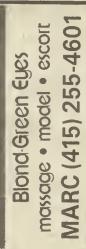
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A fullbody hot oil massage will relax, revitalize and balance your body and mind. Release stress & tension under nurturing hands. Swedish/Esalen, Acupressure, and combination. Jack Walder, CMT • 1½hr. \$35 771-1728

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• Days/Eves  
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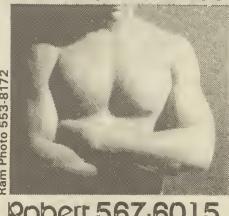
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# B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

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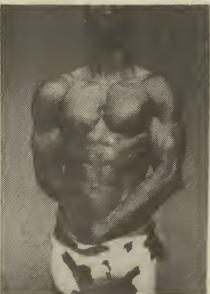
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Unique bodywork by European  
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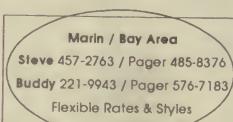
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DICK ★ 337-6709

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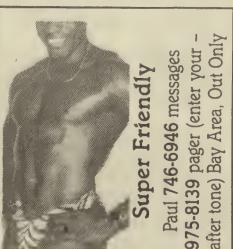
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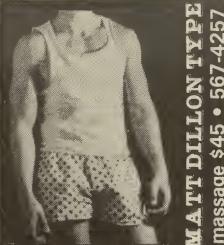
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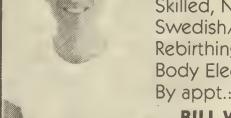
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HOT EURASIAN BB  
Will give total body  
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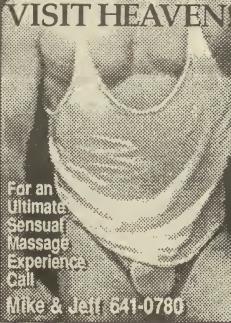
SUPER NICE AND  
HOMOSEXUAL MAN

6', 195, Athlete Blond, 45" chest, 33"  
waist, expert full body nude Swedish  
rub by a man who knows. \$45/80

BEN 292-5245  
U can reach me most times

E38

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Sensual  
Massage  
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190lb. bodybuilder who will give  
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best in relaxation, complete,  
legit., nude massage

\$45/\$65, 24HRS.

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\$50 In/\$65 Out  
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hot bod. (408) 559-7524

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I have hands filled with strength,  
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what feels the best.  
Brad 861-1805



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Acupressure/Esalen style.  
Firm sensual by athletic man.  
Steve 821-2985 \$35/hr

E34

Models &  
Escorts

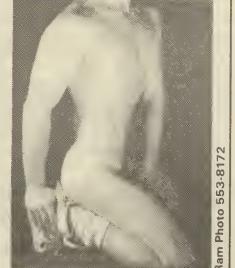
The butt & legs-of-life  
on-a-solid-muscular-hunk-with-  
rugged-hndsm-looks. Totally  
masculine-626-7392

### MUSCLE GUY

Big strong guy wants attn.

664-7156. Thick 24 hrs.

E33



### Skip 821-7818

HANDSOME HISPANIC

10%

Formal to funky.

Thomas 621-7777. Call back

E38

Tall, tan blue-collar top, X-strong  
legs, hung and handsome. Mike  
821-1477 24 hrs.

E34

Young, black, 20 yr. old with a  
smooth, firm, muscular, athletic  
body! Boyd 541-5040

E34

SMOOTH TANNED BLOND  
Bodyldr, 26 yrs, 5'9", 155#, 8"  
cut, a real hunk! Boyd 550-6833.

E33



# B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

## Models & Escorts

### THE RIGHT STUFF BUTCH • BUILT • BOY



RANDY 864-3133  
CALLBACK REQUIRED

PHOTO BY RAM 553-8172



FRANCO 252-0775  
5'9", 175, 45c, 30w, 8 uncut

ON YOUR KNEES!  
True 8 1/2" stands straight up for  
attention. Ivan \$60.  
861-7931

E33

Hot Blond Stripper/Swimmer,  
Kinky Top \$60 Nick 255-6433

E33

Hot Yng Swimmer, 26, Lean  
Boyish. Call Dave 563-5637.

E33

Expert Tit Work by 40 yr. old  
Leatherman w/Big Nips, 6',  
195lbs. Bart 235-3813, out.

E33

If you want to please  
a tall well built man with a hairy  
chest & 9 hot inches call John  
978-0163.

NEVER IN A HURRY

E33

Sexy blond jock with washbrd abs & incredible pecs. 26 yrs, 5'9",  
155#, 8" c, tanned, masculine &  
very handsome, \$80in/\$100out  
Brandon 864-0788

E33

JASON  
175lbs, 5'8 1/2", 46" C, 29" W  
864-2070 • \$115

Great Australian Lad  
Adam is 21, 150lbs, blk hair,  
brown eyes, nice tan, sweet,  
warm & friendly. Your place or  
mine. 24 hrs, 626-3118.

E33

EXOTIC MULATTO  
Distinctive  
Light-Skinned, Sexy  
Hot-looking • 24 hrs.  
Call 775-4771

ALL-AMERICAN  
B O Y  
25 y.o. swimmer lays back for  
WORSHIP  
Handsome, clean-cut, wholesome.  
TREAT 775-3114 No B.S.

Handsome Masculinity  
On a pleasant 29 year old. 6'1",  
160 lbs. Long blond hair and blue  
eyes 4 this sexpot. Relax & enjoy  
Ed by calling.  
775-2069 \$65 worthwhile

NEW JERSEY JOE  
New in town, 5'7", 170#, c49",  
w29", th28". Complete with East  
Coast energy and CA smile. Treat  
yourself to the best time you've  
had in years with this red hot  
Italian stud. Call me 863-BALL.

E33

HOT 19 Y.O.  
VERY CUTE  
Versatile. Out only.  
Jimmy 821-4742

All American athletic farm boy. 23  
y/o centerfold/erotic dancer. Versatile  
and safe. Todd 995-4745.  
Lv. msg.

E33

Very hndsm yng man  
Gives erotic full body hot oil  
massage in the nude. I am hthly,  
discreet & safe. Call Clay  
346-2543

E33

It's good to be Lucky & Lucky to  
be this good! 864-0538 Get  
"Lucky" now! X-good top

E33

New York Lovers  
Double your fun/pleasure  
Day, nite, to be squeezed so tight.  
Call 24 hrs 362-8302

E33

Young Asians and others. Looking  
for a hot American man. Fuzzy,  
husky 43 yo. Looks 30. Call Phil  
995-4746

E33

24 HOUR DADDY  
Tall, Hairy, Big Hangers  
Chad 861-7014

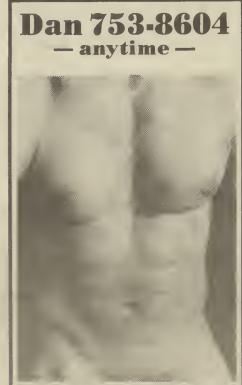
E36

Intense Physical Affection  
**SIX FT EIGHT**  
Versatile topman 863-3823.  
Brent, callback required.

E34

**Gifts from God**  
is what we are looking for  
and we are ready  
to pay for it.  
If you have an outstanding  
physique with a face to  
match call for an interview.  
We would love to talk to  
you. (Non-porn work  
available.) Call now!  
**626-9886**

Hot Oakland Man-to-Man Action  
Gentle Top, 5'5", 142, Hairy, Hung  
FR A/P, G/R/A, J/O, Verbal. \$70 In  
MARC 444-3204



Dan 753-8604  
— anytime —

### • FACE THIS! •



WOLF • 753-6539  
Callback Required

### MADE FOR YOU

Tall Handsome Man  
Tight Dancer's Build  
Awesome Endowment  
Passionate & Sexy  
\$100 • 863-7399 • In/out  
Massage included  
Be prepared to be impressed

### MUSCLE BEACH

6', 260#, 21" a, 56" c  
size & cuts  
**Barry 563-5176**

Always naked for hot J/O & video.  
AI 928-5826 \$60

E36

E. Bay Italian cyclist 6', 175 lbs.  
8" cut. Massage and J/O. 27yrs.  
Joey 658-2437

E35

Body by Jake? Not exactly. Jake:  
26 6', 175 #, 42c, smooth hot  
new model. Br, hair, green eyes.  
Hot 821-3457

E33

Lean swimmer, hung 9". Safe top.  
Tan, friendly. 776-1802. Steve  
\$80 In-out.

E33

### SCOTT & TONY

Always naked for hot J/O & video.  
AI 928-5826 \$60

E36

Cute, young & hung top. Kurt  
**9" STUDMUFFIN**  
Yummy & filling 541-5616

E33  
• Sling room/24hrs. 863-6536 •  
E36

S.F.'s Hottest Male Model  
Chip: Handsome & Masculine, 24;  
5'10", 175lbs, 43" c, 32" w, br  
hair, green eyes, nice tan, warm &  
friendly, 626-0374

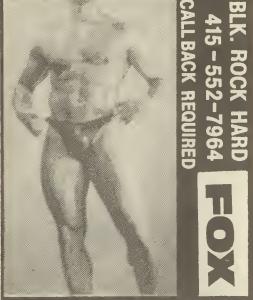
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**SPECIAL DELIVERY**  
BIG PARCEL • BLACK HIGHLIGHTS

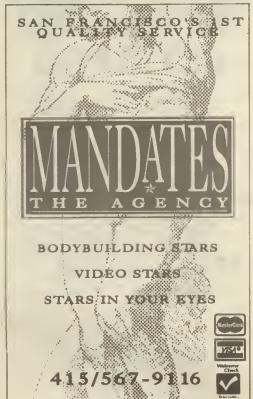


VIC 621-1553 \$100  
CALLBACK REQUIRED

RAM PHOTO 553-8172 ACME GRAPHICS 864-3133



BLK. ROCK HARD  
415 - 552-7964  
CALLBACK REQUIRED  
**FOX**



HAIRY TRUCKER

32 yr old Stud wants you to  
downshift with his thick, sweaty,  
8 1/2" Mac \$60, 621-5102

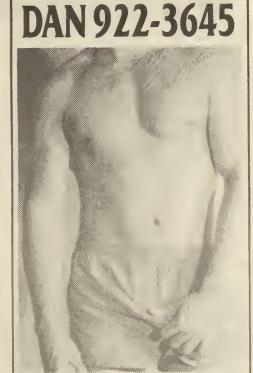
E33

8 1/2 X-Thick Inches of Manhood  
needs spit-shine. \$60  
Hank 861-7379

E33

Handsome Guy Next Door  
Tim: 26, 6', 175lbs, 42" c, 30" w,  
brown hair, green eyes, ready 24  
hrs, call 626-3118.

E33



Hottest of the hot!  
Chip: 22, 6' 180 lbs 42" c  
30" w Handsome-Masculine  
24 hrs Hotels Airport OK  
No disappointments 626-0374

E35

Smooth, Trim, Muscular,  
**HUNGRY JACK!**  
Likes to Please, Friendly.  
30, 5'11" 160# Solid Package,  
King Size Meat, Experienced  
Hotels/In/Out/M.C./Visa  
985-9132

E33



CHECK ME OUT  
See to believe. 27 y/o  
rugged XXX-Handsome,  
XXX-Hung, XXX-ripped,  
lean, hard muscular  
god-body, tattoos.  
No BS. Serious stud  
pleasure seeker.  
I really dig attention.  
\$120  
RICK, 626-6839

# B.A.R. BAZAAR

MR. MARCUS

## Something Old, Something New

If the Boot Camp Bar were open today, they'd be celebrating their 20th anniversary. The notorious bar opened on Thursday, Aug. 5, 1971 just two days after the Cow Palace Saloon (now the Powerhouse) opened as a country western bar. The Boot Camp survived as a successful bar for eight years. The Cow Palace didn't and became a series of different names until it was definitely established as a leather bar in its own right (the Phoenix, No Name, Bolt, Brig and now the Powerhouse).

Within days of the five-day grand opening party, *Chronicle* columnist Herb Caen printed a blurb that made the bar famous overnight. He wrote about the bar many, many times before its demise and always mentioned it was "only a few steps from the Hall of Justice" (1010 Bryant).

The Boot Camp's owners had a policy of keeping the place dark, very warm and serving free salted peanuts — a way to sell lots of drinks. On Sunday nights, when most working people usually headed home, the Boot Camp was packed to the rafters — they were serving free meals to keep people buying drinks. The caterer for the meals was the Fat Fairy. The permissive attitude of the owners continued through two different regimes until finally in 1979, the Alcoholic Beverage Control closed it for good along with the Arena, the Ambush, and the Black & Blue. The others re-opened after their suspensions, but the Boot Camp reopened as an after-hours trysting place for fun and games that was rivaled only by the Cauldron. The Arena, Ambush and the Black & Blue no longer exist.

The "Booty," as some people called it, was a small bar in comparison to some of today's watering holes. There was always something going on. Dildo Mondays, Cock Rings and Cash on Tuesdays, Fun Buns contests and birthplace of the Golden Dildeaux Awards, an event that will probably be revived later on this year. During Harvey Milk's campaigns he made a point to be at the Boot Camp where they always held a fundraiser for him and where everyone got a free half pint of milk on their way out.

After many, many years of success, it was inevitable that the ABC would suspend and finally revoke the liquor license. After all, they were armed with infra-red photos of some of the action on the premises and they only recorded 57 sex violations. But it was fun while it lasted and South of Market veterans fondly remember the place for all the good times they had there.

This month, another bar destined for success is the Lone Star Saloon on Harrison, just 57 steps across the street from the old Ambush. After being demolished in the earthquake last year at their first location on 7th and Howard, owner Rick Redewill didn't give up. Even as you read this, the Lone Star will probably be opening any day now. Last week they were heavy-duty working on the premises and this time it will be a full liquor bar.

Like the Boot Camp before it, the Lone Star is a Leo bar — brash, lusty, and promising to be a man's bar you'll probably enjoy. At my deadline, they were only waiting for the main inspection as electrical work was completed and Rick admits he's had many, many



Jim Marshall is Mr. Chubby, 1990, selected by judges at the Watering Hole last Sunday. He weighs in at 320 lbs.

(Photo: Marcus)

phone calls from people who want to know when it will open.

With a full liquor bar, a great sound system, a patio and room for expansion upstairs, the outlook for the Lone Star looks very, very bright. It will be a welcome addition to the South of Market scene. The doors aren't even open yet and already the *Oakland Tribune* put the Lone Star on their

front page last week. I hope you'll check out the place when it opens. The Hot Ash group has already booked two parties there in the near future!

★ ★ ★

One of the funnest, repeat funnest events occurred last Sunday at the Watering Hole. For his first major fundraising project, Mr. Leather of SF Ray

Tilton staged the first Mr. Chubby Contest. Oh, I know, some grumps are exclaiming "Another title?" But this one was fun, it raised money and everyone got a big charge out of it. If it's fun and the public supports it, it's a winner!

There were close to 2,000 lbs. of manhood on the stage. The scene served to prove there is something for everyone and whether you like it or not, there are chubby chasers in the world. Judges Alan Selby, Zach Long, Nova Lei, Jacques Michaels, Joe Hollinger and Serena Drugose had a ball deciding among the six contestants.

Ray emceed the first half and Vern Stewart the last half. When it was all over, close to \$300 was raised for the AIDS Emergency Fund and the God-father Service Fund; door prizes were given away (and some returned for the cause) and the newest "title" holder Mr. Chubby 1990 is Jim Marshall (320 lbs.). The first runner-up was Alan Abonyi and the 2nd runner-up was Larry Rivera. Jim got \$100 in cash, a spiffy medallion and an original sketch by Kirby the artist; Alan got a medallion, a \$50 gift certificate from Mister S and Larry got a medallion and a \$25 Mister S certificate. Good show, Ray. I'm glad to see our leather title holders at work and doing the things they know are beneficial to the community. (Continued on next page)

# Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

Friday night, the T-Shirt-A-Rama for the Larkin Street Youth Center at the Land's End bar raised hundreds for the VCRs needed. Miguel Gutierrez missed his calling — from what I hear he twisted a few arms to sell the T's that were not auctioned off. And

the volunteer coordinator for the Center, that hot blond Bob Ebert, certainly impressed everyone as well. Total amount raised: \$451.50! Good show. Brad Cavalier and Mr. South of Market Ken Mueller modeled the shirts. I'd buy anything Ken has worn — except his other half.

★ ★ ★

Good news surfaced last

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LUBRICANTS  
AND OTHER  
MALE-ORIENTED  
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15%  
SALE  
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9 AM - 10 PM, Mon-Sat.  
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SALE ENDS AUG. 23, 1990



Mr. Chubby Contest Winners (l. to r.): 1st runner-up Alan Abonyi, 2nd runner-up Larry Rivera, Mr. SF Leather Ray Tilton, who produced the contest, Mr. Chubby Jim Marshall, and Mr. Marcus who announced the winners.

(Photo: Marcus)

week. The new board of directors of International Ms. Leather were made known. Despite some vicious rumors, all is well. The new board of officers are Pres. Sky Renfro; VP Robin Sweeney; Recording Sec. Jamie Santos; Treasurer Sheila Courier, and the one I expect to hear from frequently, the media coordinator Branch Hastings. The new board has ambitious plans for next year's contest and to raise money. We cannot afford to let IMsL die. We need all the support available in this community. All of you realize that, I know, so I'm looking to see a lot of support from both men and women. Thanks.

On another front, the SMMILE people are proud to report that they raised \$4,188.50 for AIDS Benefits Counselors from the Dore Alley Leather Block Party two weekends ago! The check will be presented to the beneficiary this Sunday at the Forum Beer Bust at the Eagle. Good job! Thanks to all who helped make the event (SMMILE's first effort) a raging success!

★ ★ ★

Sunday, Sept. 2, we'll be choosing a new Leather Daddy's Boy at the Eagle beer bust. Applications will be available any day now at the bar. It will be a benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund and more details will follow in this space. If you're interested in winning a title and working afterward, now's your chance to do it!

We're deep in the throes of summer now, and still a lot of fun things are headed your way. In the coming days, you might want to consider one or some of these:

**Thursday, Aug. 16:** Tonight, tomorrow, Saturday and Sunday, the Golden Gate Men's Chorus will be performing at MCC, 150 Eureka. The menu for the concerts is labeled "American Music." All concerts are at 2000 except for Sunday, when it begins at 1430 — in the Main Hall. Tickets in advance are \$10 or \$12 at the door. If you're a Senior or a Student, they're only \$6 for all

If you're an early riser, today you can join the Freewheeler's Car Club for a "Mystery Tour." Even if you're not a member, you're welcome to meet with them at Fort Funston (on the coast by the Olympic Club) at 1000 for coffee, O.J. and rolls. The tour starts at 1100, lasts about two to three hours; you'll be given clues to follow and gather info for points. All for only \$5 which includes registration and lunch afterward at a location to be named that day. There really should be two or more participants in your group. This is a chance to meet those antique car collectors — the Freewheelers. Call Chris at 824-7140 for more info. By the way, their cars are the antiques, not the club members!

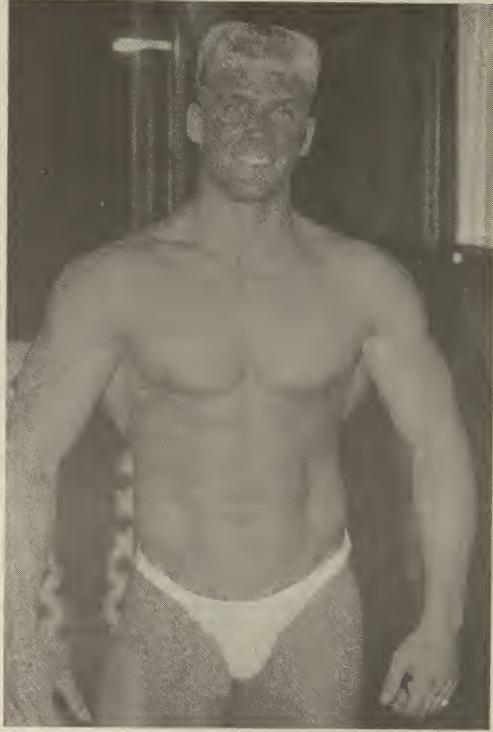
Bill Walden of the Cal Eagles has finally reached the ripe old age of 40 and they're celebrating this feat with a pool party way out in Pleasant Hill beginning at 1100 and absolutely no gifts! I hope you got an invitation. I always knew Bill was partial to water sports — the vanilla kind.

**Sunday, Aug. 19:** At the I-Beam today, it's Ralph Porcelli's second annual "A Brief Affair," a benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund, beginning at 1500. It's \$5 admission. Check your clothes when you enter. Hottest looking person in underwear will win \$100. The bartenders are donating all their tips and all proceeds will be matched by I-Beam owner Sanford Kellman. There's more going on, but why spoil the surprises?



Putting the finishing touches on the bar at South of Market's Lone Star Saloon opening any day now.

(Photo: Marcus)



Mike Meriweather will attend "A Brief Affair" at the I-Beam this coming Sunday in the dress code for the night.

(Photo: Marcus)

Why ride around on your motorcycle without some kind of protection? This afternoon, it's the annual Blessing of the Bikes. Two-wheeling veteran Harry Harkness is usually behind this ritual with members of the Metropolitan Community Church performing the blessings. The ceremony begins at 1300.

Frank Dietrich puts on an exhibition of his works at Company, one of Nob Hill's nicest bars. The reception is from 1600-1900 and the art work is definitely for sale. Frank does beautiful art work.

**Monday, Aug. 20:** For their second exhibition game of the season, the 49ers travel to Denver to face the team they trounced in Super Bowl XXIV earlier this year. It's at 1700 on Channel 7.

**Tuesday, Aug. 21:** Bondage Buddies get together tonight for gay men interested in bondage. It's a way to meet someone into the scene in a safe, non-threatening atmosphere. There were 65 guys at the last meeting and this is their second year in — bondage! Their next play party is on Sat., Aug. 25, and on Sept. 5, Rick Booth will lecture on rubber bondage!

**Wednesday, Aug. 22:** Can you imagine seeing 18 classic films for only \$15? That's what you'll get if you sign up for the Lesbian and Gay Film Class — plus 3 units of college credit at CCSF. You can take the class either at CCSF (on Wednesday afternoon from 2-5 p.m., or at Mission High on Wednesday or Thursday evening from 6:30-9:30 p.m.). Some of the films on the schedule include the classic *Making Love*, *Before Stonewall* and *Sgt. Matlovich vs. the U.S. Air Force*. Classes begin today (or tomorrow). Call 239-3430 for registration or show up the first day of class.

**Thursday, Aug. 23:** The Harley Strokers M/C (all gay Harley owners and buddy riders) are having their third annual *Rendezvous* beginning today through Aug. 26 on central Oregon's Deschutes River. They didn't give me any prices but if you are really interested

you better call Barry at (503) 248-0555, or write to PO Box 86686, Portland, OR 97286.

#### Dish-Tinguished

I know a lot of you are interested in knowing who won the Mr. Hotlanta Contest in Georgia a couple of weeks ago, aren't you? I don't have any photos of him yet, but he is from Los Angeles and his name is Paul Bartholomew. Int'l. Mr Leather Mike Pereyra told me Paul is "stunning." Coming from Mike, he probably is!

My main bike club spy told me that the SF Rainbows are staging a beautiful legs contest on the Satyrs MC Badger Flats Run on Labor Day weekend. There will be three categories: prettiest, hairiest and best all-around. By the way, have you sent in your \$100 for the four-day event yet?

Lake San Antonio is the site for the Constantines' annual run, Sep. 14-16; it'll cost you \$85 and no applications will be accepted at the gate for the "And Now A Word From Our Sponsor" themed event with the usual amenities at a site only 200 miles from SF midway between King City and Paso Robles. Get an application from any club member or write to P.O. Box 4964, SF, CA 94101, but do it now!



This is a bike christening. Get yours christened at the Eagle next Saturday, Aug. 18 at 1500.

(Photo: Marcus)

That's about it for this week boys and girls. Hope to see you around and about supporting all the worthy events and hey

— you might even want to volunteer?! Keep loving and laughing and doing good things — just do it in leather!

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YOU MUST BE 18 OR OLDER  
95¢ PER MINUTE  
IN ADVANCE

TALK LIVE!  
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# Bar for Friends 'Just Took Off'

Tucked away in upper Fillmore admit a growing neighborhood of elegant highrises and small shops offering everything from vintage clothing to antiques and gourmet coffee, lies a restaurant and bar named after a nearby park.

Manager Manuel Lago helped to form the establishment when it first opened in 1977. Gradually, the original bar and the health food restaurant next door were transformed into the Alta Plaza complex, which now takes up the corner of Clay Street.

Manuel explains its growth in simple terms: "We started a bar for friends, and it just took off and got popular."

When the upper space was available, they expanded it for dining. Now guests can enter from the restaurant door and walk down to the bar, or have pre-dinner cocktails and step up to a multi-level area to eat.

Artwork on the walls of the restaurant changes. Recently, photographer Russ Fischella showed large black and white portraits. A vase of huge red gladiolas seems to be the only obvious color in the room, which has comfortable seating for about 60 people.

During the day, the restaurant plays host to those who work in the nearby Presbyterian Hospital, and neighborhood people. After sunset and on weekends a predominantly gay clientele comes out to play.



Bar manager Chuck Elliott welcomes visitors to his lounge area for cocktails with a mix of pre-recorded soft jazz and classical music during the day and pop/disco on the weekend.

Alta Plaza serves a brunch ranging from \$5 to \$9. Luncheon entrees run from \$5 to \$11.50; and Dinner is served \$9.25 to \$18.

*Alta Plaza Bar, 2301 Fillmore. Hours: 5:30 p.m.-2 a.m. daily; Saturday and Sunday also from 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.*

*Alta Plaza Restaurant, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; (Dinner) Sunday-Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m.; Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 5:30 p.m.-11:00 p.m. Phone: 921-4646*



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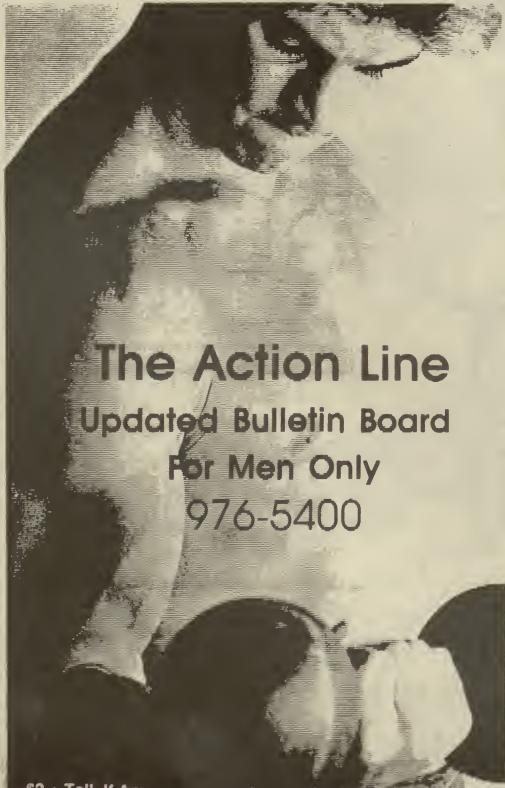


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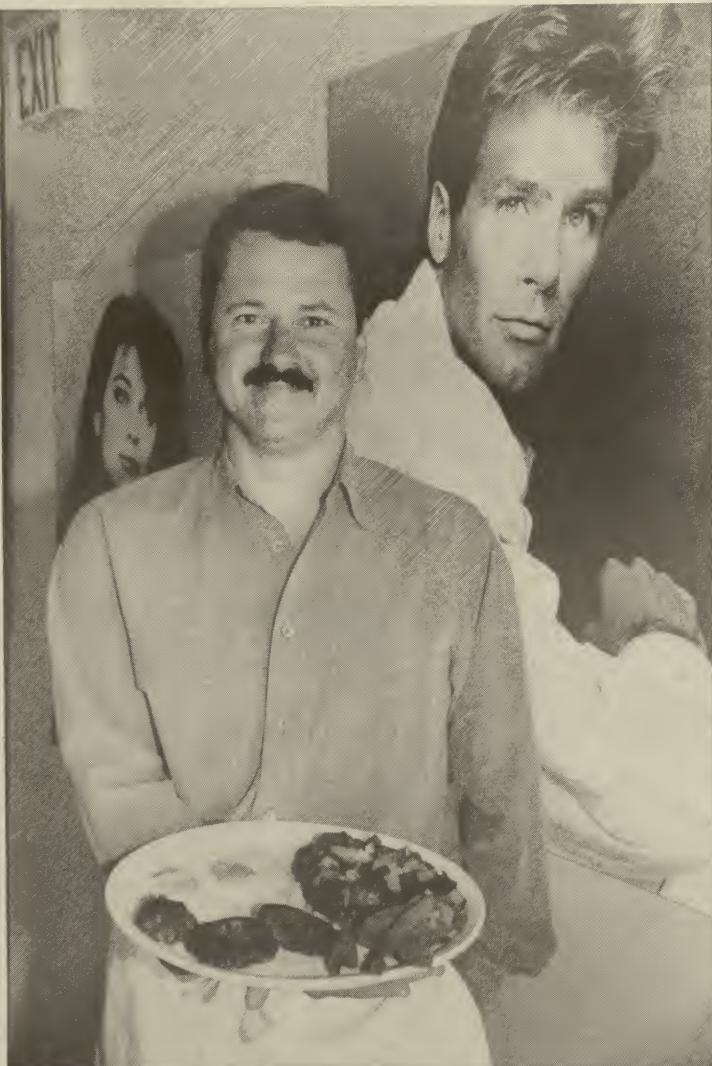
Three hot new film programs on 3 big screens in main auditorium, each program 3 hours, changed Sunday and Thursday. Main screen — 3 features; 2nd — All Hot Jackoffs, Grand Prix and Halcyon film exclusives; 3rd — Classic Film Loops of the '60s: '70s. Plus J/O Room with monitor screens. Our J/O audience does its own live show every day!

Adm. \$7. Circle J is HOT, CLEAN and SAFE!



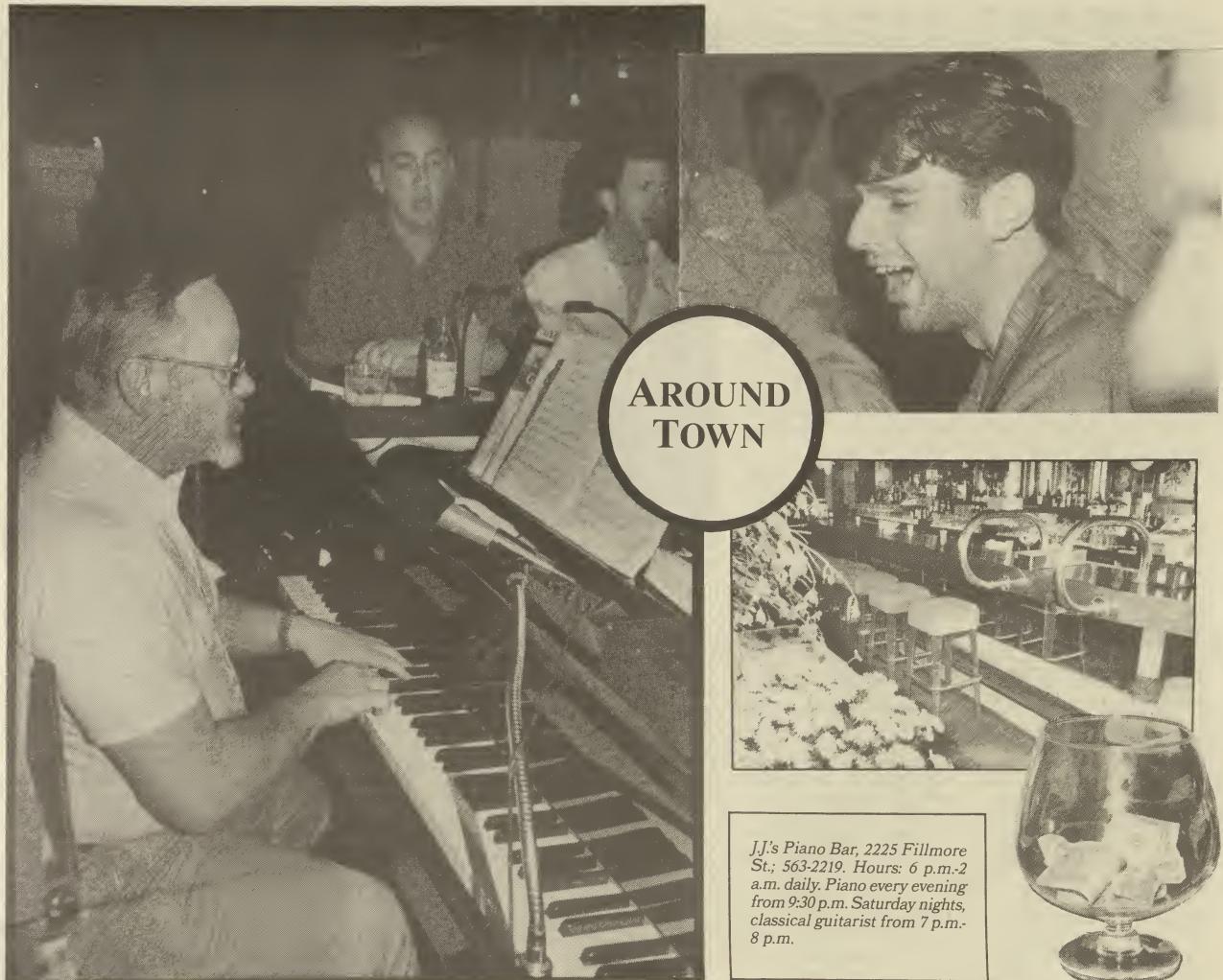
**The Action Line**  
**Updated Bulletin Board**  
**For Men Only**  
**976-5400**

\$2 + Toll, If Any



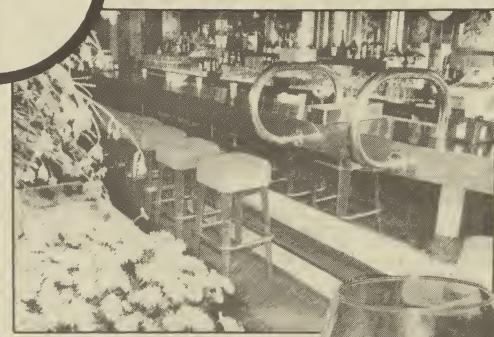
Dick Vivian with home-made sausage and eggs for brunch at Alta Plaza Restaurant.

(All photos: Rick Gerhardt)



## AROUND TOWN

Bob Parke, above, at the piano at J.J.'s and David Salanitro, above right, belting one out for the boys. (All photos: Rick Gerhardt)



J.J.'s Piano Bar, 2225 Fillmore St.; 563-2219. Hours: 6 p.m.-2 a.m. daily. Piano every evening from 9:30 p.m. Saturday nights, classical guitarist from 7 p.m.-8 p.m.



## Upper Fillmore's Piano Bar

Somehow San Francisco seems to be the perfect city for piano bars — maybe it's the fog, and maybe it's the fascinating people out there just waiting to be met. Anyway, sad to say, pianos are rapidly becoming a thing of the past in a city that seems to forget it's supposed to stay small — not get big.

Speaking of the subject, we're happy to announce a true find in the Fillmore area. It's called J.J.'s piano bar (after its owner) and if it wasn't for the piano awning a few doors down from the Clay Theatre, you might just pass it by.

J.J.'s is open every evening, and various piano players hold court on different nights. Co-manager Barbara Scott, who is an actress and singer, even manages to belt out a few songs on Thursdays and Fridays, while she tends bar.

"I do this work," she says with a laugh, "to stay in touch with reality and stay sane."

Although the bar gets a larger percentage of straight visitors on Thursdays and Fridays, its clientele is predominantly gay. Barbara reports that on Monday evenings performers from local shows such as *Beach Blanket Babylon* and *Les Misérables* can be seen wandering in to

relax from their schedule and join the fun.

There really is a J.J. (Jeff Grow), who says that on any given evening "you can hear our singers a block away." He's referring, of course, to mostly anyone who wanders in, because it's hard to resist the lure of that piano and the chance to join in a song.

When J.J. bought the bar three years ago he was a little over 20 years old, and he has learned a lot since then. He has had the same basic staff for three years and describes them by saying, "We're a real family."

Through the years J.J. has worked with his "family" to raise money for the AIDS Emergency Fund, the God-father Fund, earthquake relief, and Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence benefits.

Artists of all types display their talents on the walls of J.J.'s and the owner says he is always on the lookout for large, visual art and photography to show. Toward the end of each week gay newspapers are also on hand for those who want to catch up on the latest news. "I call Thursday Library Day," J.J. says with a grin, "because everyone has their head buried in the papers." ▼



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## Comings and Goings

**O**n Friday, Sept. 7, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the very popular Giraffe at 1130 Polk St., David Webb will be hosting a reception benefit for the Carole Migden for Supervisor campaign. The buffet is at 6:30. So do join them for a fun-filled evening with your congenial host, Mr. Webb. And remember: Carole Migden for Supervisor!

Sara Klotz piano and vocals now appearing at Rounds, 510 Larkin St., on Thursdays and Saturdays in August from 8 p.m. until midnight. She is terrific.

A Broadway Musical Extravaganza, a Fuducker Video Production at The Gate, at Pine and Jones, has a curtain time of 7 p.m. on Sunday, August 19. Snacks by A Unique Chef, Dennis Tyler. This should be a fun-filled evening so please plan on attending this event. Thank you again, Jimmy Quinn.

### Greta Turns 60 and Runs

Yesterday (the 15th) was Greta Grass' 60th birthday and she was down south on vacation. Perhaps she couldn't face getting that old! After all, I have known her for 32 years. Ugh! Hi, James. And yes, Greta will be back to work at the Cinch on the 27th so do wish her well.

Kudos to Tatiana and Co. for the great third anniversary of First Saturday benefits a couple of weeks ago at

the Eagle. Everyone looked absolutely fabulous I'm told.

That grand guy George Buchanan is around town these days and I think he is doing a gig on Broadway in North Beach but I haven't found out where just as yet. Let us know, George.

The Presentation of Candidates for Grand Duke and Duchess will be on Saturday, Aug. 18, 6 p.m. at the Service Union Hall, 240 Golden Gate Ave., Third Floor. Admission is an \$8 donation.

If you are over in the East Bay be sure to stop in at the White Horse out on Telegraph and say hello to David, nice guy.

While Craig Roady is on vacation, yours truly will be working all-day shifts at Kim's, from 9 a.m. till 6 p.m. from Sunday the 26th through Monday, Sept. 3. You have a nice vacation, Craig.

Don't forget to pick up your own 1990 Polk Rendezvous 49er Season Ticket, which when validated at the Rendezvous during the game gets you your second cocktail compliments of the management. Right on, David.

"T-Guys" had a great fundraiser at the Cinch Saturday last in the afternoon. You did a great job, Max. Thanks to Mario and Richard for allowing this worthy fundraiser to happen, as a lot of people got some wonderful prizes and some needed monies



Nicole Dushey rakes in the dollars at the third anniversary of Tatiana's First Saturday benefit at the SF Eagle.

(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

were raised.

Had a call from Mame in Portland and she raved about the video that Chuck Largent left of Jose's last show at the popular Charpe's Restaurant. They are going to show it at the Dirty Duck next weekend.

### Billy's Back

Welcome home to Billy Pearson of the Giraffe from his Canadian vacation, and yes, Don Rogers of Ginger's Too was true blue to you. Ha Ha. (But you were missed.)

Wednesday the 15th was Kenny Allison's birthday. They had a great time at the

Kokpit celebrating it. Nice to have seen you again the other day, Florida. You are looking well as always. Nice to have had my two good friends here from Milwaukee, Chet and Rick. They had a great time at different bars.

Everyone who came back from Vancouver and the Gay Games said that they had a fabulous time there and everyone was so friendly and helpful and treated everyone so well.

Yes, that was Cha Cha here last week from Houston, and he was so gracious that he never mentioned softball once around me. But can you

picture Cha Cha and Greta and Tina with James, having dinner at the House of Prime Rib? They had to have a special table.

Uncle Bert's at 18th and Castro seems to be one of the more popular bars out in that area, with their very congenial staff serving you. So do drop by and have a cocktail or two with them.

Well, Durwood is back from his vacation in Montreal, but I haven't seen him yet to get all of the dirt about that great city. Give me a call soon, dear.

And I'll see the rest of you on the plank! ▼

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## Scatological

(Continued from page 32)

songs interspersed throughout the action.

And if the action seems to revolve only around sex and the sexual violence that appears to be the only way longing can be expressed in a brutal world, there's a reason. These people give themselves what they think they deserve — and they've been trained to think they don't deserve much. The cumulative moral force of the show is great; it's an eloquent argument for funding, education, affordable housing and jobs that don't drain humanity from a person. ▼

Some adjustment to the theatre's cavernous echo is necessary, and the language demands attention and thought from the audience. The unique, sexually explicit script, however, is brought to life by blistering performances. The quality of this production is such that I can hardly believe something this good has been staged by a local company. And for all its scatological shock, the play packs a powerful moral wallop. ▼

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and finesse. No such splits of bemusement occur here in *Metropolitan*.

Antonioni and Fellini covered this territory in more enthralling fashion 30 years ago. Stillman's smug superiority is both cloying and labored. The meager finances precluded hiring talented actors who could make us believe in their flimsy banality. Hence the irony of indigent thespians impersonating their "bettters". The film actually should've been called *Flatliners* due to the inert dialogue delivery (the actor who plays Nick is the sole exception).

It mounts an interminable stretch during its second hour achieving the most flaccid climax within moviegoing memory. That Vincent Canby of the *New York Times* went to bat for it says more about Canby's minimal demands than anything about the film. ▼

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